

LINDA McCARTNEY • BLACKS IN ASIA • YOUNG HOLLYWOOD

Newsweek®

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THE BIRTH OF

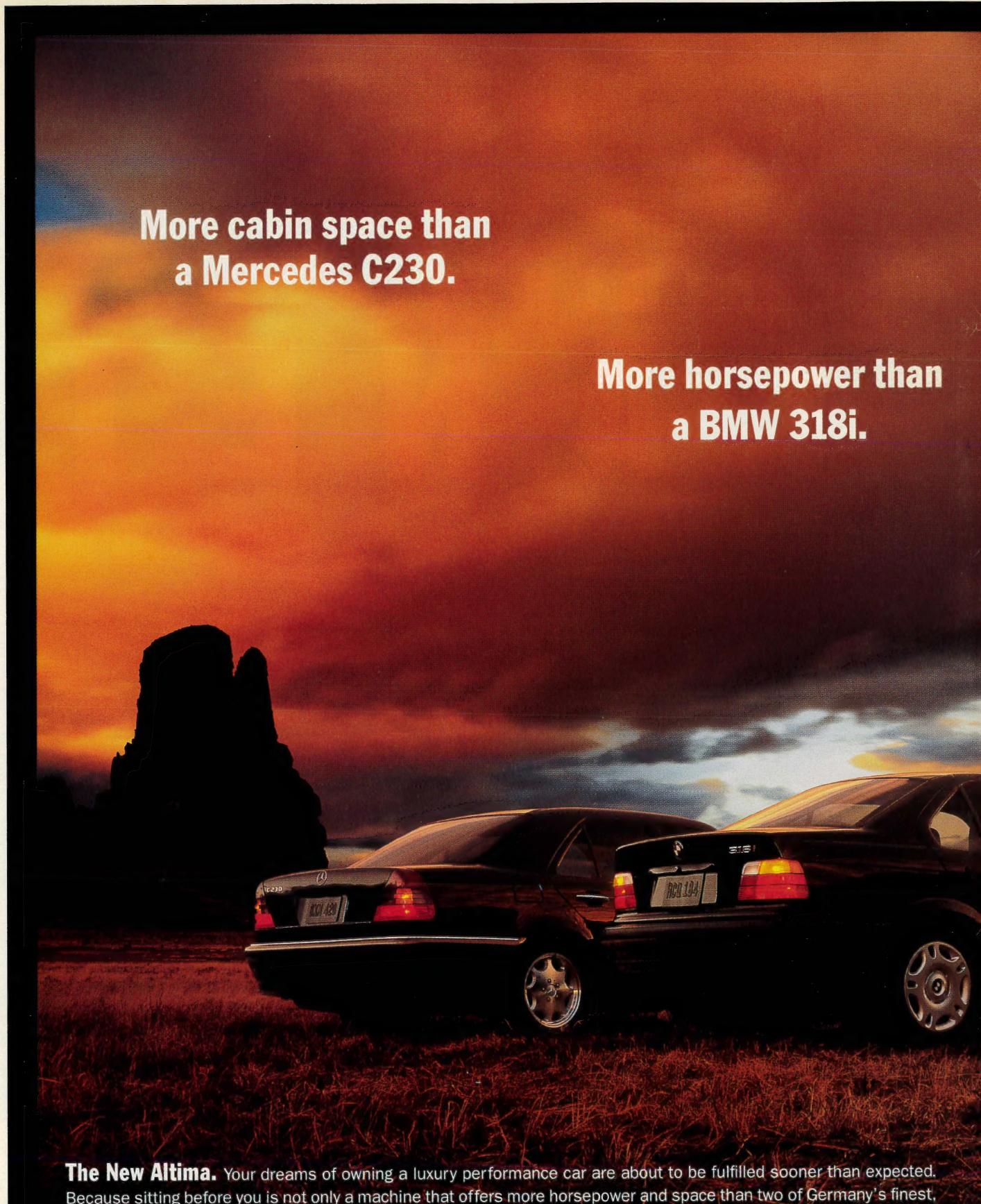
PLANETS

Scientists
Discover
New Solar
Systems...

...and
Rethink the
Odds of
Life Beyond
Earth

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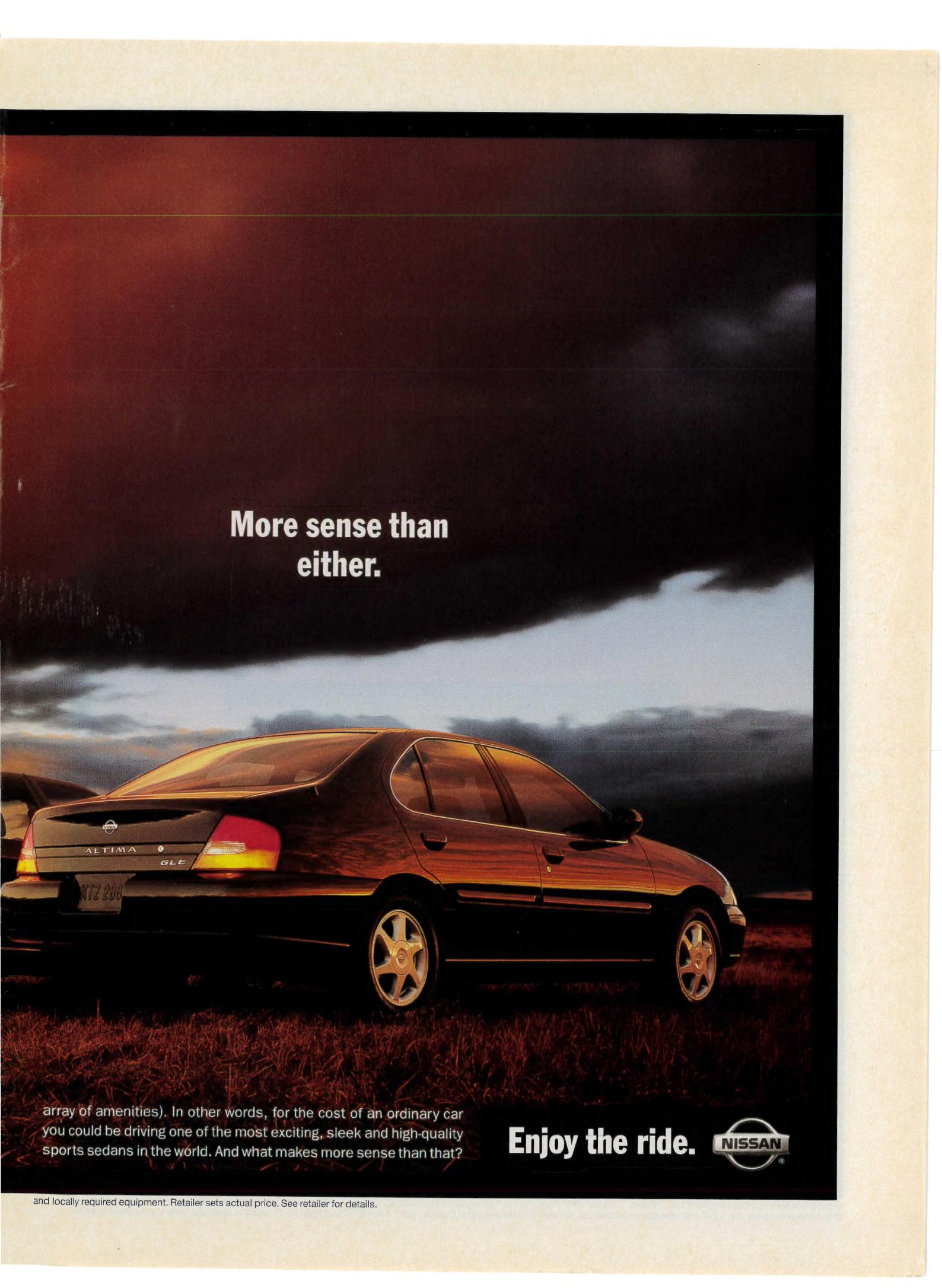
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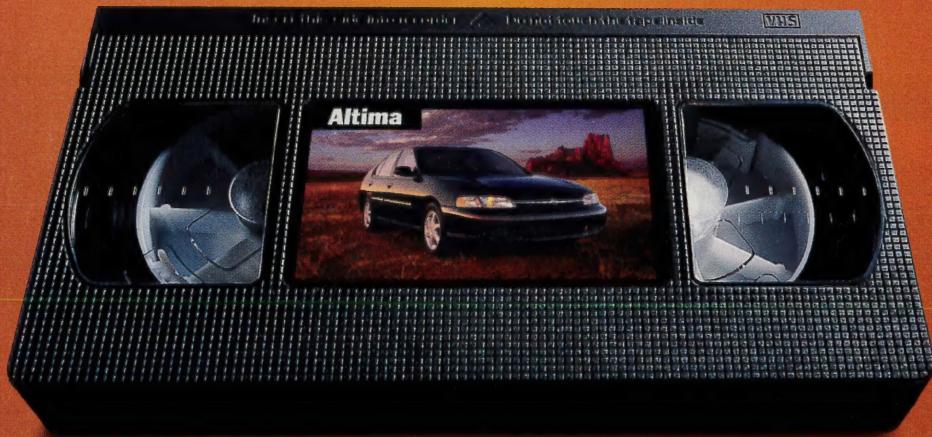
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TOP OF THE WEEK



ROGER RESSMEYER — CORBIS

THE COVER: With astronomers looking on for the first time, a planet is born. Explaining the complicated science of discovering new solar systems—and why the Earth suddenly seems like a much less lonely place. **Page 54**



GAMMA-LIAISON

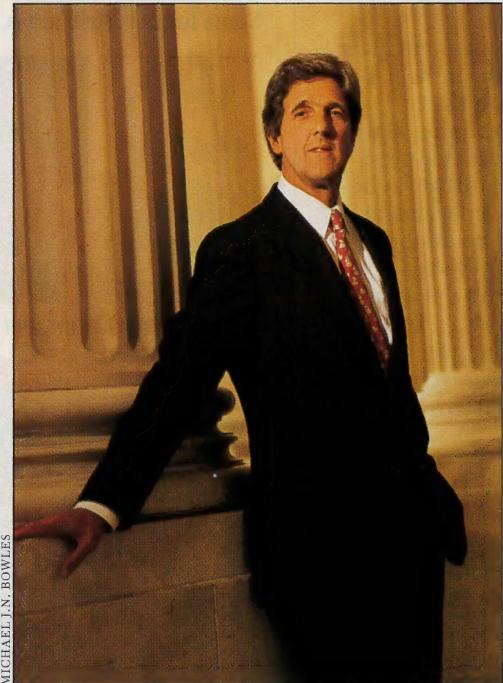
SOCIETY: Paul McCartney loses his lovely Linda—and a little cherished privacy. **Page 64**



MICHAEL TIGHE

THE ARTS: Inside Young Hollywood. (And it's not just Ben Affleck and Matt Damon.) **Page 74**

COVER: Illustration by Tom Cushtwa based on a computer model by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS: Kerry, Kerrey & Bradley prepare to take on Gore. Meet the Sanctimonious Middle. **Page 28**

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Newsweek

Letters to the Editor should be sent to NEWSWEEK, 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019-1894. In the U.S. send subscription inquiries to NEWSWEEK, P.O. Box 59967, Boulder, CO 80322-9967. NEWSWEEK (ISSN 0028-9604), May 4, 1998, Volume CXXXI, No. 18. In Canada send subscription inquiries to NEWSWEEK, Inc., P.O. Box 4012, Postal Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W2K1. Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 546593. Canadian GST No. 123-321-309. For all changes of address call 1-800-634-6850. For all other inquiries call 1-800-631-1040. Unless otherwise indicated by source or currency designation, all terms and prices are applicable in the U.S. only and may not apply in Canada. NEWSWEEK is published weekly, except for 2 issues combined into one at year-end, for US \$41.08 a year and Canadian \$61.88 a year, by NEWSWEEK, Inc., 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019-1894. Richard M. Smith, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief; Stephen Fuzesi Jr., Chief Counsel and Secretary. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. To order reprints (minimum order required: 500 copies) or request permission to publish a NEWSWEEK article, please call 212-445-4870 or fax 212-445-4929. POSTMASTERS: send address changes to NEWSWEEK, P.O. Box 59968, Boulder, CO 80328-9968. Printed in U.S.A.



Starr sighting: The independent counsel on his way to the office
WHITEWATER

Adding Some Polish?

YOU'D THINK THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD BE HAPPY THAT Ken Starr finally decided to seek professional help. But hiring former Reagan aide Charles Bakaly as his spokesman probably wasn't what it had in mind. Until recently, there were few sights more welcome for the president's supporters than seeing Starr stand in his driveway before a battery of news cameras. Each time the independent counsel spoke out, Clinton's approval ratings would almost always rise, while Starr's dropped. But now Bakaly's trying to put some polish on Starr's public image, and he's trying to find his client a forum more "dignified" than a driveway. That's disappointing some Clinton aides who've grown accustomed to benefiting from Starr's unpopularity, and who are relying on it to help keep potential impeachment hearings at bay.

JUSTICE

Hubbell Scope

WEBSTER HUBBELL HAS KEPT a low profile since being sent off to jail in 1995, after pleading guilty to ripping off the Little Rock law firm where he and Hillary Clinton once worked. But since his release he's rapidly regained notoriety. First, Ken Starr's begun eyeing evidence that Hubbell got plenty of financial help over the years from presidential



Back in the news

pals. And now Hubbell's own words are embarrassing him further. In a letter he wrote from a minimum-security prison to friend and benefactor Bernard Rapoport, Hubbell made some presumptuous analogies. He wrote that he'd resolved to turn his "adversity into an opportunity... Remember Gandhi, King, Mandela... spent many hours in facilities like this." But now it may be Starr who decides if Hubbell faces further tribulations.

EX-PRESIDENTS

Not Exactly Bygones

SINCE LEAVING THE WHITE House, Jimmy Carter's become an unofficial ambassador, easing tensions from Korea to Haiti. But according to a new book by Douglas Brinkley, "The Unfinished Presidency: Jimmy Carter's Journey Beyond the White House," Carter's good intentions sometimes got the better of him. Days before the gulf war began in 1991, Carter secretly wrote leaders of the Arab coalition asking them to "call publicly for a delay in the use of force in order to seek a peaceful solution." He added: "Most Americans will welcome such a move." Some former Bush aides, un-



War of words: Carter and Bush

aware of Carter's meddling at the time, are angry. Former national-security adviser Brent Scowcroft told NEWSWEEK that in a book he's writing with Bush to be published this fall, he will accuse Carter of violating the Logan Act, which prohibits U.S. citizens from interfering with American foreign policy. Carter's friends disagree, telling NEWSWEEK that he "did nothing inappropriate."

RWANDA FAX

Firing Squads

Cheering crowds of thousands gathered in Kigali and four other Rwandan towns last Friday to witness the first round of executions of those convicted in the central African state's 1994 genocide campaign. The Rwandan government ordered the deaths of 22 people condemned for their roles in the systematic slaughter of a half-million people, mainly Tutsis. Last-minute clemency appeals from human-rights advocates, the pope, the European Union and foreign governments were ignored by Rwandan leaders, who ordered the convicts shot at point-blank range by police with AK-47s.

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH

A Hard Day's Night Edition

Who would have thought that the late-20th century's exemplar of true family values would be a former Beatle? Paul, the CW wishes it could hold your hand.

Players

P. McCartney

Conventional Wisdom

Flak's lie can't tarnish Sir Paul's class act. CW believes in Yesterday.

Rat Pack

Cablecast of Dino, Sammy and Frank in '65 was politically incorrect. Everyone loved it.

Ellen

Out of the closet, into the dumpster. Upside: fewer silly photos with that Heche woman.

Airlines

"Alliances" may look good now, but get ready for Mentos for dinner.

Salon

Sassy (and still free) online zine shows N.Y. Times how to investigate a spec. prosecutor.

Campaigns

Old CW on reform: Gingrich and Lott strangle it. New: still alive to die another day.



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Out of the Dollhouse and Onto the Runway

BILLY THE GAY DOLL HAS SOME NICE NEW CLOTHES. LEADING fashion names from Perry Ellis to Betsey Johnson have outfitted the anatomically enhanced figure for a benefit auction next

month. Proceeds will go to LIFEbeat, an AIDS charity. Carlos, Billy's similarly constructed lover who came out in January, wasn't custom-fit for the event. Maybe he and Billy can share.



Funked-up in Nicole Miller



Tattoo by Alexander McQueen



Christian Lacroix takes flight



Liz Claiborne's preppy ensemble

SPORTS

Mind Bending

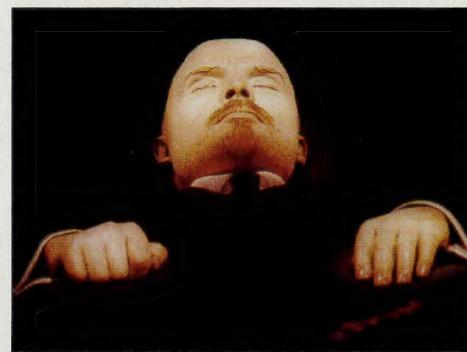
FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS—or mend hamstrings. Just ask England soccer coach Glenn Hoddle, who has recruited faith healer Eileen Drewery to help the national squad in the

run-up to the World Cup. Last week the Brits trounced Portugal in a warm-up game. But a few key players are still out with nasty injuries. Maybe more paranormal help is needed. Israeli spoon-bending psychic Uri Geller has

promised to send players his "Little Book of Mind Power." And if they need mental inspiration on the field? Says Geller: "[It's] small enough to tuck under their shin pads."



Faithful



Lying in State: Lenin entombed at Red Square

RUSSIA

Tales From the Ruler's Crypt

DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES, but archivists do. Last week Russia's State Scientific Institute released previously classified documents detailing the Soviets' efforts to maintain Lenin's mausoleum. According to the archives, red tape often made repairs difficult and expensive. For example, it took

four years and more than \$10,000 to remove light reflections from Lenin's glass coffin, which made getting a good glimpse of the body difficult. And when the revolutionary needed new clothes in 1967, the Kremlin commissioned Moscow's Scientific Research Institute

of Wool to custom-cut an outfit. The orders were simple: keep it plain, keep it proletarian. Apparently, Lenin was never a slave to fashion when he was alive, so officials thought he should not be one in death. But the institute's tailors couldn't find any suitable fabric at Soviet mills, so they ultimately chose to use imported material to stitch the suit. Lenin still wears. Decadent, perhaps. But durable.

ARLYN TOBIAS GAJILAN and BETH KWON with bureau reports

JAPAN

This Drink Will Really Send Ya

FOR SOME JAPANESE TOURISTS, going abroad isn't enough. Soon they can explore the final frontier, courtesy of Pepsi's 2001 Space Tours contest. Five lucky winners can earn their astronaut wings on a \$98,000 flight with Zegram's Space Voyages, which plans suborbital missions beginning in 2001. The campaign is an effort by Suntory, Pepsi's Japanese distributor, to narrow the gap between Pepsi and Coke, by far the country's favorite colas. Suntory will spot each winner 10 million yen (about \$77,000) for the trip. If space rides fail to convert the locals, Pepsi can always fall back on free hats and mugs.

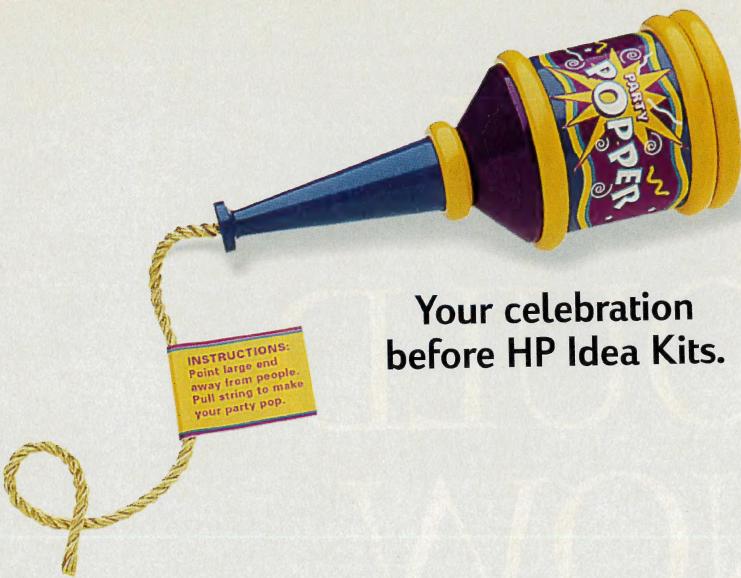


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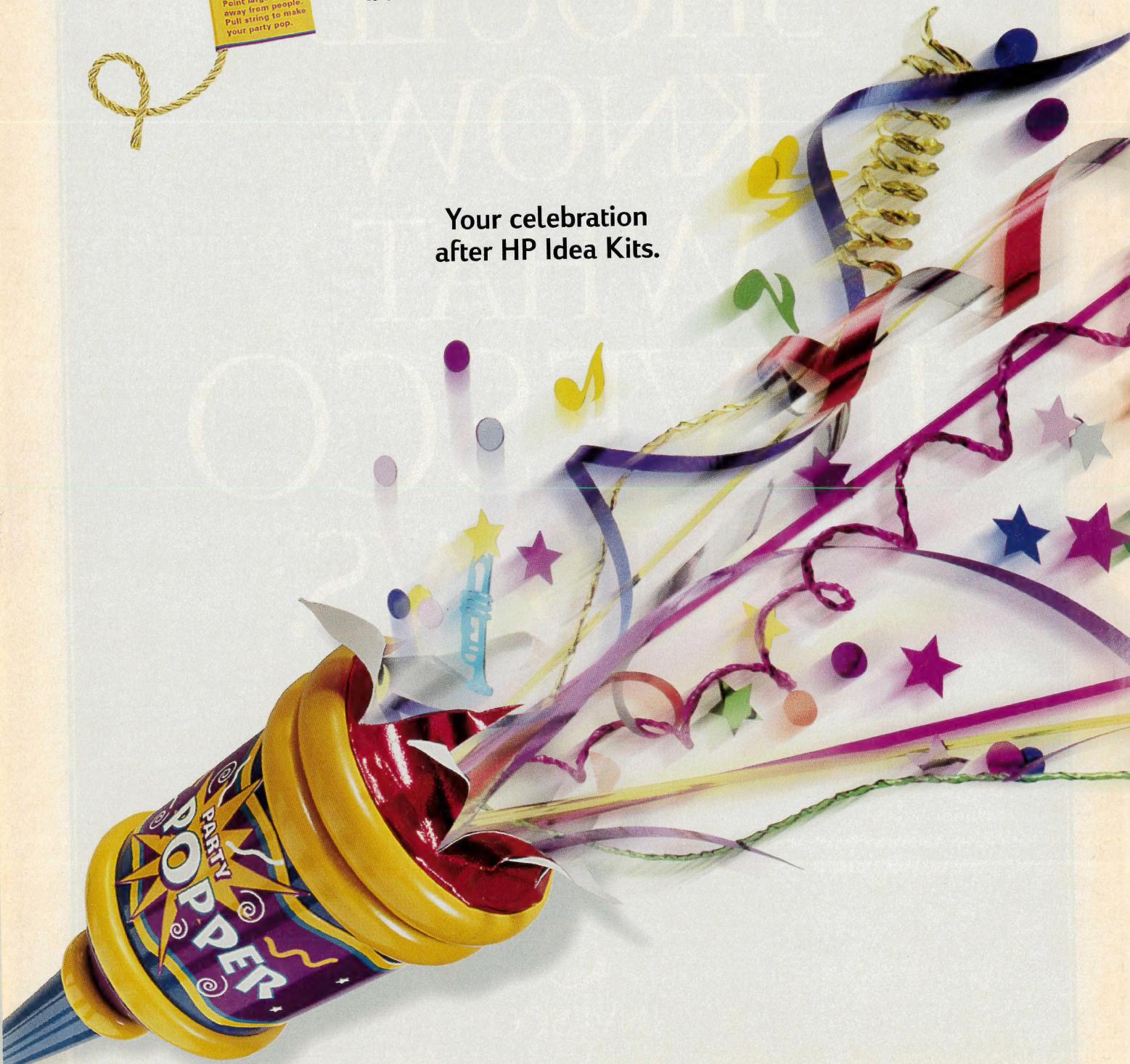
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CYBERSCOPE

WEB BY JEFFREY S. BROWN

Not Lost In Space

IT'S A BUMMER WHEN "404: File Not Found" appears. But with Alexa 1.3 (www.alexa.com), a free browser aid that acts like a search engine, those lost Web pages are found. Every two months, Alexa archives the entire Web to a digital-tape machine, and historians approve. David Allison, curator of technology at the Smithsonian, says, "Years from now, we'll be very interested in today's Web sites." One blast from the recent past: the Heaven's Gate cult page.



The robot pulls a '404'

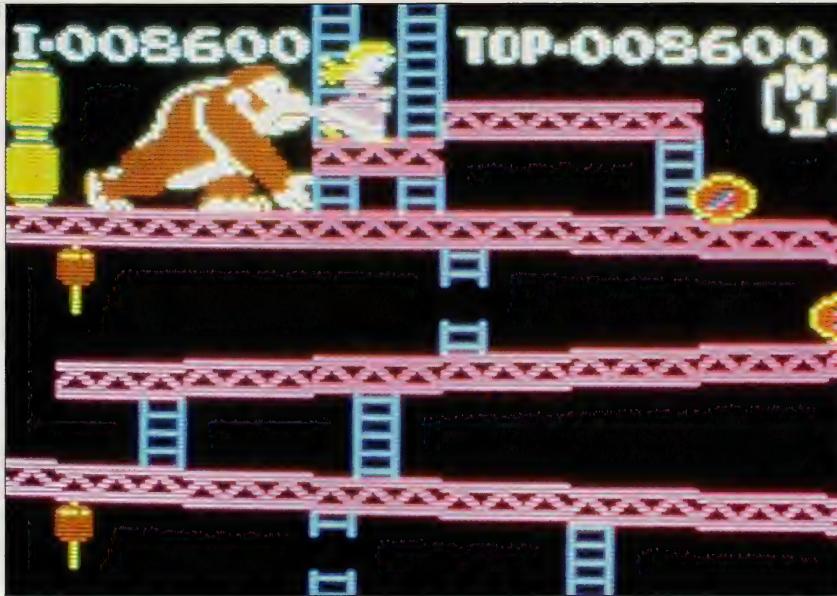
PHONES

Beach Wear

HIGH SURF REQUIRES HIGH fashion, at least in Los Angeles, where county lifeguards are now protecting their phones with the same stylish stuff they wear to protect their bodies. Body Glove, known for making neoprene wet suits, is supplying real and wanna-be "Baywatchers" with CellSuits (\$24.95; www.bodyglove.com).



Water-resistant and shock-absorbent, the cases can guard as well on sand as they can on asphalt. The CellSuit easily wraps around most popular brands of cellular phones and comes with a detachable strap. It's also available in six not-so-subtle shades, including fluorescent colors. And for the beeper set, check out Body Glove's line of BeepSuits.



He's back! Games like the original Donkey Kong are hot on the Net.

NOSTALGIA

The Thrill of the Old

THEY'RE COOL, FREE AND, OF course, illegal. At sites like Dave's Video Game Classics (www.davesclassics.com), you can download a so-called arcade emulator and the accompanying files for games such as Pac-Man and Asteroids—the 8-bit ancestors that started our love affair with the virtual. The only problem: copyright infringement. But while companies like Nintendo beat the copyright drum, the old games are

still easy to find and simple to download. The publishers say it's too difficult to police the entire Internet and admit they're more protective of new games. Efforts to protect the old rights have been "halfhearted," says the president of one gaming company. There are even rumors that some publishers privately like the revival. We like it, too. Today's elaborate games rarely come close to emulating the entertainment value of Donkey Kong.

INTERNET

Fight Back

DEBORAH BOEHLER'S nightmare began last August. After phone calls from adult men asking for their young daughter, Boehle's husband searched Internet newsgroups and found racy messages with the 9-year-old's name, along with their phone num-



Internet crusader: Boehle

ber and hometown. The family suspected an angry neighbor, but the FBI said no laws had been broken. Next Thursday Boehle hopes to change all that. She'll testify before the House crime subcommittee for a new law that would make it illegal to target a child for sexually explicit messages or contact.

Silicon Investor
Welcome to the largest discussion community on the Web!
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David Lawrence submitted the 4,000,000th message!

A hot spot for tech execs

MONEY

Big Bucks

SILICON INVESTOR, A popular personal-investment Web site at www.techstocks.com,

has a reputation for being the lunchtime hangout of bigwig executives from major technology companies. "We have a lot of CEOs, CFOs and VPs registered," con-

firms Jill McKinney, the site's Webmistress, who lords over the 100,000 members who swap tips and do research. At least one CEO's watching the site: it was acquired last week for \$33 million.

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the indoors?



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BRIEF SUMMARY

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients of this preparation contraindicates its use.

WARNINGS

The replacement of a systemic corticosteroid with a topical corticoid can be accompanied by signs of adrenal insufficiency and, in addition, some patients may experience symptoms of withdrawal, e.g., joint and/or muscular pain, lassitude and depression. Patients previously treated for prolonged periods with systemic corticosteroids and transferred to topical corticoids should be carefully monitored for acute adrenal insufficiency in response to stress. In those patients who have asthma or other clinical conditions requiring long-term systemic corticosteroid treatment, too rapid a decrease in systemic corticosteroids may cause a severe exacerbation of their symptoms. Children who are on immunosuppressive drugs are more susceptible to infections than healthy children. Chickenpox and measles, for example, can have a more serious or even fatal course in children on immunosuppressive doses of corticosteroids. In such children, or in adults who have not had these diseases, particular care should be taken to avoid exposure. If exposed, therapy with varicella-zoster immune globulin (VZIG) or pooled intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), as appropriate, may be indicated. If chickenpox develops, treatment with antiviral agents may be considered. The use of Nasacort Nasal Inhaler with alternate-day systemic prednisone could increase the likelihood of hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) suppression compared to a therapeutic dose of either one alone. Therefore, Nasacort Nasal Inhaler should be used with caution in patients already receiving alternate-day prednisone treatment for any disease.

PRECAUTIONS

General: In clinical studies with triamcinolone acetonide administered intranasally, the development of localized infections of the nose and pharynx with *Candida albicans* has rarely occurred. When such an infection develops, it may require treatment with appropriate local therapy and discontinuation of treatment with Nasacort Nasal Inhaler.

Triamcinolone acetonide administered intranasally has been shown to be absorbed into the systemic circulation in humans. Patients with active rhinitis showed absorption similar to that found in normal volunteers. Nasacort at 440 mcg/day for 42 days did not measurably affect adrenal response to a six hour cosyntropin test. In the same study, prednisone 10 mg/day significantly reduced adrenal response to ACTH over the same period (see **CLINICAL TRIALS** section).

Nasacort Nasal Inhaler should be used with caution, if at all, in patients with active or quiescent tuberculous infections of the respiratory tract or in patients with untreated fungal, bacterial, or systemic viral infections or ocular herpes simplex.

Because of the inhibitory effect of corticosteroids on wound healing in patients who have experienced recent nasal septal ulcers, nasal surgery or trauma, a corticosteroid should be used with caution until healing has occurred. As with other nasally inhaled corticosteroids, nasal septal perforations have been reported in rare instances.

When used at excessive doses, systemic corticosteroid effects such as hypercorticism and adrenal suppression may appear. If such changes occur, Nasacort Nasal Inhaler should be discontinued slowly, consistent with accepted procedures for discontinuing oral steroid therapy.

Information for Patients: Patients being treated with Nasacort Nasal Inhaler should receive the following information and instructions.

Patients who are on immunosuppressive doses of corticosteroids should be warned to avoid exposure to chickenpox or measles and, if exposed, to obtain medical advice.

Patients should use Nasacort Nasal Inhaler at regular intervals since its effectiveness depends on its regular use. A decrease in symptoms may occur as soon as 12 hours after starting steroid therapy and generally can be expected to occur within a few days of initiating therapy in allergic rhinitis. The patient should take the medication as directed and should not exceed the prescribed dosage. The patient should contact the physician if symptoms do not improve after three weeks, or if the condition worsens. Nasal irritation and/or burning or stinging after use of the spray occur only rarely with this product. The patient should contact the physician if this occurs.

For the proper use of this unit and to attain maximum improvement, the patient should read and follow the accompanying patient instructions carefully. Spraying triamcinolone acetonide directly onto the nasal septum should be avoided. Because the amount dispensed per puff may not be consistent, it is important to shake the canister well. Also, the canister should be discarded after 100 actuations.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: No evidence of treatment-related carcinogenesis was demonstrated after 2 years of once daily gavage administration of triamcinolone acetonide at doses of 0.05, 0.2 and 1.0 mcg/kg (approximately 0.1, 0.4 and 1.8% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis) in the rat and 0.1, 0.6 and 3.0 mcg/kg (approximately 0.1, 0.6 and 3.0% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis) in the mouse. Mutagenesis studies with triamcinolone acetonide have not been conducted.

Impairment of Fertility: No evidence of impaired fertility was demonstrated when oral doses up to 15 mcg/kg (approximately 28% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis) were administered to female and male rats. However, triamcinolone acetonide at oral doses of 8.0 mcg/kg (approximately 15.0% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis) caused dystocia and prolonged delivery and at oral doses of 5.0 mcg/kg (approximately 9.0% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis) and above produced increases in fetal resorptions and stillbirths as well as decreases in pup body weight and survival. At an oral dose of 1.0 mcg/kg (approximately 2.0% of the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis), it did not manifest the above mentioned effects.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C. Triamcinolone acetonide was teratogenic at inhalational doses of 20, 40 and 80 mcg/kg in rats (approximately 0.4, 0.75 and 1.5 times the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis, respectively) and rabbits (approximately 0.75, 1.5 and 3.0 times the recommended dose on a mcg/m³ basis, respectively). Triamcinolone acetonide was also teratogenic at an inhalational dose of 500 mcg/kg in monkeys (approximately 18 times the recommended clinical dose on a mcg/m³ basis). Dose-related teratogenic effects in rats and rabbits included cleft palate, internal hydrocephaly, and axial skeletal defect. Teratogenic effects observed in the monkey were CNS and cranial malformations. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Triamcinolone acetonide should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits justify the potential risk to the fetus.

Experience with oral corticoids since their introduction in pharmacologic as opposed to physiologic doses suggests that rodents are more prone to teratogenic effects from corticoids than humans. In addition, because there is a natural increase in glucocorticoid production during pregnancy, most women will require a lower exogenous steroid dose and many will not need corticoid treatment during pregnancy.

Nonteratogenic Effects: Hypoadrenalinism may occur in infants born of mothers receiving corticosteroids during pregnancy. Such infants should be carefully observed.

Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether triamcinolone acetonide is excreted in human milk. Because other corticosteroids are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Nasacort Nasal Inhaler is administered to nursing women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 6 have not been established. Oral corticosteroids have been shown to cause growth suppression in children and teenagers, particularly with higher doses over extended periods. If a child or teenager on any corticosteroid appears to have growth suppression, the possibility that they are particularly sensitive to this effect of steroids should be considered.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adults and Children 12 years of age and older: In controlled and uncontrolled studies, 1257 adult and adolescent patients received treatment with intranasal triamcinolone acetonide. Adverse reactions are based on the 567 patients who received a product similar to the marketed Nasacort canister.

These patients were treated for an average of 48 days (range 1 to 117 days). The 145 patients enrolled in uncontrolled studies received treatment from 1 to 820 days (average 332 days). The most prevalent adverse experience was headache, being reported by approximately 18% of the patients who received Nasacort. Nasal irritation was reported by 2.8% of the patients receiving Nasacort. Other nasopharyngeal side effects were reported by fewer than 5% of the patients who received Nasacort and included: dry mucous membranes, naso-nasal congestion, throat discomfort, sneezing, and epistaxis. The complaints do not usually interfere with treatment and in the controlled and uncontrolled studies approximately 1% of patients have discontinued because of these nasal adverse effects. In the event of accidental overdose, an increased potential for these adverse experiences may be expected, but systemic adverse experiences are unlikely (see **OVERDOSAGE** section).

Children 6 through 11 years of age: Adverse event data in children 6 through 11 years of age are derived from two controlled clinical trials of two and four weeks duration. In these trials, 127 patients received fixed doses of 220 mcg/day of triamcinolone acetonide for an average of 22 days (range 8 to 33 days).

Adverse events occurring at an incidence of 3% or greater and more common among children treated with 220 mcg triamcinolone acetonide than vehicle placebo were:

Adverse Events	220 mcg of triamcinolone acetonide daily (n=127)	Vehicle placebo (n=322)
Epistaxis	11.0%	9.3%
Cough	9.4%	9.3%
Fever	7.9%	5.6%
Nausea	6.3%	3.1%
Throat discomfort	5.5%	5.3%
Otis	4.7%	3.7%
Dyspepsia	4.7%	2.2%

Adverse events occurring at a rate of 3% or greater that were more common in the placebo group were upper respiratory tract infection, headache and concurrent infection.

Only 1.6% of patients discontinued due to adverse experiences. No patient discontinued due to a serious adverse event related to Nasacort therapy. Though not observed in controlled clinical trials of Nasacort Nasal Inhaler in children, cases of nasal septum perforation among pediatric users have been reported in post-marketing surveillance of this product.

OVERDOSAGE

Acute overdose with this dosage form is unlikely. The acute topical application of the entire 15 mg of the canister would most likely cause nasal irritation and headache. It would be unlikely to see acute systemic adverse effects even if the entire 15 mg of triamcinolone acetonide was administered intranasally all at once.

Caution: Federal (U.S.A.) law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Please see product circular for full prescribing information.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,767,612

Rev. 11/96

IN-0479J

ONCE DAILY Nasacort[®] AQ (triamcinolone acetonide) Nasal Spray

For intranasal use only.
Shake Well Before Using

BRIEF SUMMARY

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients of this preparation contraindicates its use.

WARNINGS

The replacement of a systemic corticosteroid with a topical corticoid can be accompanied by signs of adrenal insufficiency and, in addition, some patients may experience symptoms of withdrawal, e.g., joint and/or muscular pain, lassitude and depression. Patients previously treated for prolonged periods with systemic corticosteroids and transferred to topical corticoids should be carefully monitored for acute adrenal insufficiency in response to stress. In those patients who have asthma or other clinical conditions requiring long-term systemic corticosteroid treatment, too rapid a decrease in systemic corticosteroids may cause a severe exacerbation of their symptoms.

Children who are on immunosuppressive drugs are more susceptible to infections than healthy children. Chickenpox and measles, for example, can have a more serious or even fatal course in children on immunosuppressive doses of corticosteroids. In such children, or in adults who have not had these diseases, particular care should be taken to avoid exposure. If exposed, therapy with varicella-zoster immune globulin (VZIG) or pooled intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), as appropriate, may be indicated. If chickenpox develops, treatment with antiviral agents may be considered.

The use of Nasacort Nasal Inhaler with alternate-day systemic prednisone could increase the likelihood of hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) suppression compared to a therapeutic dose of either one alone. Therefore, Nasacort Nasal Inhaler should be used with caution in patients already receiving alternate-day prednisone treatment for any disease.

PRECAUTIONS

General: In clinical studies with triamcinolone acetonide nasal spray, the development of localized infections of the nose and pharynx with *Candida albicans* has rarely occurred. When such an infection develops it may require treatment with appropriate local therapy and discontinuation of treatment with Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray.

Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray should be used with caution, if at all, in patients with active or quiescent tuberculous infection of the respiratory tract or in patients with untreated fungal, bacterial, or systemic viral infections or ocular herpes simplex.

Because of the inhibitory effect of corticosteroids on wound healing in patients who have experienced recent nasal septal ulcers, nasal surgery, or trauma, a corticosteroid should be used with caution until healing has occurred. As with other nasally inhaled corticosteroids, nasal septal perforations have been reported in rare instances.

When used at excessive doses, systemic corticosteroid effects such as hypercorticism and adrenal suppression may appear. If such changes occur, Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray should be discontinued slowly, consistent with accepted procedures for discontinuing oral steroid therapy.

Information for Patients: Patients being treated with Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray should receive the following information and instructions. Patients who are on immunosuppressive doses of corticosteroids should be warned to avoid exposure to chickenpox or measles and, if exposed, to obtain medical advice.

Patients should use Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray at regular intervals since its effectiveness depends on its regular use. (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**.)

An improvement in some patient symptoms may be seen within the first day of treatment, and generally, it takes one week of treatment to reach maximum benefit. Initial assessment for response should be made during this time frame and periodically until the patient's symptoms are stabilized. The patient should take the medication as directed and should not exceed the prescribed dosage. The patient should contact the physician if symptoms do not improve after three weeks, or if the condition worsens. Patients who experience recurrent episodes of epistaxis (nose bleeds) or nasal septum discomfort while taking this medication should contact their physician. For the proper use of this unit and to attain maximum improvement, the patient should read and follow the accompanying patient instructions carefully.

It is important to shake the bottle well before each use. Also, the bottle should be discarded after 120 actuations since the amount of triamcinolone acetonide delivered thereafter per actuation may be substantially less than 55 mcg of drug. Do not transfer any remaining suspension to another bottle.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: In a two-year study in rats, triamcinolone acetonide caused no treatment-related carcinogenicity at oral doses up to 1.0 mcg/kg (approximately 1/30 and 1/50 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults and children on a mcg/m³ basis, respectively). In a two-year study in mice, triamcinolone acetonide caused no treatment-related carcinogenicity at oral doses up to 3.0 mcg/kg (approximately 1/12 and 1/80 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults and children on a mcg/m³ basis, respectively).

No mutagenicity studies with triamcinolone acetonide have been performed.

In male and female rats, triamcinolone acetonide caused no change in pregnancy rate at oral doses up to 15.0 mcg/kg (approximately 1/2 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis). Triamcinolone acetonide caused increased fetal resorptions and stillbirths and decreases in pup weight and survival at doses of 5.0 mcg/kg and above (approximately 1/5 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis). At 1.0 mcg/kg (approximately 1/30 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis), it did not induce the above mentioned effects.

Pregnancy: **Teratogenic Effects:** **Pregnancy Category C.** Triamcinolone acetonide was teratogenic in rats, rabbits, and monkeys. In rats, triamcinolone acetonide was teratogenic at inhalation doses of 20 mcg/kg and above (approximately 7/10 of the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis). In rabbits, triamcinolone acetonide was teratogenic at inhalation doses of 20 mcg/kg and above (approximately 2 times the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis). In monkeys, triamcinolone acetonide was teratogenic at an inhalation dose of 500 mcg/kg (approximately 37 times the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a mcg/m³ basis). Dose-related teratogenic effects in rats and rabbits included cleft palate and/or internal hydrocephaly and axial skeletal defects, whereas the effects observed in the monkey were cranial malformations.

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Therefore, triamcinolone acetonide should be used in pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. Since their introduction, experience with oral corticosteroids in pharmacologic as opposed to physiologic doses suggests that rodents are more prone to teratogenic effects from corticosteroids than humans. In addition, because there is a natural increase in glucocorticoid production during pregnancy, most women will require a lower exogenous corticosteroid dose and many will not need corticosteroid treatment during pregnancy.

Nonteratogenic Effects: Hypoadrenalinism may occur in infants born of mothers receiving corticosteroids during pregnancy. Such infants should be carefully observed.

Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether triamcinolone acetonide is excreted in human milk. Because other corticosteroids are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray is administered to nursing women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 6 have not been established. Oral corticosteroids have been shown to cause growth suppression in children and teenagers, particularly with higher doses over extended periods. If a child or teenager on any corticosteroid appears to have growth suppression, the possibility that they are particularly sensitive to this effect of corticosteroids should be considered.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

In placebo-controlled, double-blind, and open-label clinical studies, 1483 adults and children 12 years and older received treatment with triamcinolone acetonide aqueous nasal spray. These patients were treated for an average duration of 51 days. In the controlled trials (2-5 weeks duration) from which the following adverse reaction data are derived, 1394 patients were treated with Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray for an average of 19 days. In a long-term, open-label study, 172 patients received treatment for an average duration of 286 days.

Adverse events occurring at an incidence of 2% or greater and more common among Nasacort AQ-treated patients than placebo-treated patients in controlled adult clinical trials were:

Adverse Events	Patients treated with 220 mcg triamcinolone acetonide (n=857) %	Vehicle Placebo (n=962) %
Pharyngitis	5.1	3.6
Epistaxis	2.7	0.8
Increase in cough	2.1	1.5

A total of 602 children 6 to 12 years of age were studied in 3 double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials. Of these, 172 received 110 mcg/day and 207 received 220 mcg/day of Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray for two, six, or twelve weeks. The longest average durations of treatment for patients receiving 110 mcg/day and 220 mcg/day were 76 days and 80 days, respectively. Only 1% of those patients treated with Nasacort AQ were discontinued due to adverse experiences. No patient receiving 110 mcg/day discontinued due to a serious adverse event and one patient receiving 220 mcg/day discontinued due to a serious event that was considered not drug related. Overall, these studies found the adverse experience profile for Nasacort AQ to be similar to placebo. A similar adverse event profile was observed in pediatric patients 6-12 years of age as compared to older children and adults with the exception of epistaxis which occurred in less than 2% of the pediatric patients studied. Adverse events occurring at an incidence of 2% or greater and more common among adult patients treated with placebo than Nasacort AQ were: headache, and rhinitis. In children aged 6 to 12 years these events included: asthma, epistaxis, headache, infection, otitis media, sinusitis, and vomiting. In clinical trials, nasal septum perforation was reported in one adult patient although relationship to Nasacort AQ Nasal Spray has not been established. In the event of accidental overdose, an increased potential for these adverse experiences may be expected, but acute systemic adverse experiences are unlikely. (See **OVERDOSAGE**.)

OVERDOSAGE

Like any other nasally administered corticosteroid, acute overdosing is unlikely in view of the total amount of active ingredient present. In the event that the entire contents of the bottle were administered all at once, via either oral or nasal application, clinically significant systemic adverse events would most likely not result. The patient may experience some gastrointestinal upset.

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Please see product circular for full prescribing information.

Manufactured by Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Puerto Rico Inc.

Manati, Puerto Rico

 **RHÔNE-POULENC RORER**

RHÔNE-POULENC RORER PHARMACEUTICALS INC.
500 ARCOLA ROAD
COLLEGEVILLE, PA 19426

Rev. 10/97
IN-6361B

Patent Pending

How to Survive the 'Big One' and Other Natural Disasters

THE PAST SIX MONTHS have been a disaster—as far as nature is concerned. Torrential rain in California, immobilizing ice in the Northeast, killer tornadoes in the South have all rattled the nation's prevailing sense of well-being. In fact, this decade has been packed with earthquakes, hurricanes, blizzards, floods and fires. With global warming expected to make violent storms even more common in years to come, and earthquake watchers still awaiting the Big One, we can pretty much forget about 2000's being the start of the mellow millennium. Is there anything we can do to ward off an angry Mother Nature?

We certainly can't stop her from acting up. In the '70s, a few wacky geniuses tried to control earthquakes and hurricanes by pumping water into faults to lubricate their movement and seeding hurricanes with silver nitrate to disperse their energy. You can see how well that worked. The only real hope is in trying to predict the earth's nastier behavior. But there are frustrations.

Earthquakes are theoretically foreseeable, but major ones happen so infrequently that scientists can't collect enough data to analyze the sequence of events that turns stress on a fault line into a killer quake. And you don't bump into many experimental seismologists, for obvious reasons. "Any time you generate an earthquake," jokes USC geologist Tom Heney, "people get on your back." Seismologists can tell us which regions of the country are prone to earthquakes, but when it comes to specific quakes, the best warning they can give us is "an earthquake is going to hit—now."

Don't we at least have tornado sirens? Yes, but they don't always work. Just because more tornadoes develop in the continental United States than anywhere else in the world doesn't mean they're easy to study. It's all a matter of being in the right place at the right time, according to University of Oklahoma meteorologist Joshua Wurman, who covers some 20,000 miles each spring chasing tornadoes with his truck-mounted Doppler radar systems. The



An ill wind blows through the millennium

storms tend to form and dissipate quickly. Even with a setup that's "cooler than 'Twister,'" it's common for Wurman and his team to "take a pummeling and still not get any data."

But if we can't change nature and can't always even predict it, we can at least improve our methods of surviving its ugly moods. At the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, engineers are working on disaster-proof buildings. The Department of Energy set up INEEL to test nuclear power plants, but as the lab's emphasis shifts away from national defense, it plans to tackle earthquakes and tornadoes. It hopes, for example, to build a massive shaking table—a twisting, bucking, vibrating monstrosity capable of a realistic simulation of an earthquake's effect on full-size buildings. INEEL also wants to create a wind tunnel large and powerful enough to examine the effects of 150- to 200-mph winds on a two-story house. The facilities would give INEEL engineers a chance to test design advances before people entrust their lives to them. "It's a chance for us to

protect people before disaster strikes, not just clean up afterwards," says director Bart Krawetz.

That must sound good to the folks at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA has handed out more than \$20 billion in disaster relief in the last decade, and it's hoping a few bucks in prevention will be worth at least a couple of billion in savings. The idea is to get "local stakeholders"—in other words, us—thinking about "disaster preparedness." Working with local governments and organizations, the agency's Project Impact has established seven "disaster-resistant communities" across the country, from Deerfield, Fla., to Oakland, Calif., providing them with planning assistance and money for everything from seismic retrofits to storm shutters.

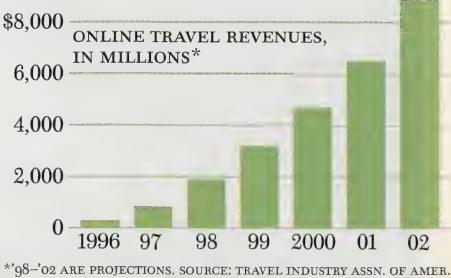
Think you can avoid natural disasters simply by staying out of California or Florida? Think again. Wyoming is the only U.S. state that hasn't experienced a major disaster in the last 10 years, and that just might mean

it's due for a plague of locusts. So learn about your area and its likely problems, prepare your property as best you can and look on the bright side. Asked how a seismologist can bear to live in quake-prone Los Angeles County, USC's Heney laughs: "I feel pretty good about the lack of tornadoes."

THOMAS HAYDEN

Surfing for a Safari

Who needs travel agents? Americans are flocking online to book their vacations. By 2002 revenues may grow tenfold.



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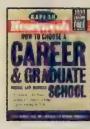
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the worship of the Holy Spirit has degraded into emotional delusions in the name of Jesus. Early church fathers knew that sobriety, self-discipline and conquering one's ego were needed before anyone could embark on a serious spiritual quest.

STEVE MOORE
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

A Continent of Changes

AT LONG LAST THERE WAS SOME POSITIVE print about Africa, thanks to the recent visit there by the Clintons ("Africa Dreams," INTERNATIONAL, April 6). While it's nice for the president to acknowledge the role of the United States in supporting tyrants in the past, what really encourages me is that America is willing to forge a new partnership with Africa based on mutual respect and understanding. However, in the end the development of Africa rests fully in the hands of Africans themselves. And no amount of external help can move us forward until we Africans are prepared to roll up our sleeves and face the challenges posed by our circumstances. That is what has been missing.

MAXWELL OTENG
SANTA CRUZ, CALIF.

He Shoots, He Scores

JOSHUA HAMMER'S ARTICLE ON MICHAEL Moore's Nike documentary entitled "The Big One" was hilarious ("Phil and Roger and Me," BUSINESS, March 30). While the accompanying photo symbolically pictures Moore taking a bite out of a huge chocolate Nike logo, it's a safe bet that Nike CEO Phil Knight and public-relations head Lee Weinstein both wish they could eat their words instead. For those who would like comic yet informative relief from today's stresses, it is reassuring that Moore, despite his current affluence, continues to produce documentaries that make CEOs squirm and most other viewers laugh.

MARY GLASSMAN
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO

Corrections

IN OUR STORY ABOUT BMW'S PURCHASE OF Rolls-Royce Motors ("Rolls Hits the Autobahn," BUSINESS, April 13), we mistakenly referred to BMW as the "engine maker of the Messerschmitt 109." In fact, it was the Focke Wulf 190 that was powered by a BMW engine, while a Daimler-Benz engine was used in the Messerschmitt 109. NEWSWEEK regrets the error.

IN THE CREDITS FOR TWO CARTOONS BY Steve Breen, this year's winner of the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning, we gave the wrong name for his newspaper (PERSPECTIVES, April 20). In fact, Breen works at the Asbury Park Press. NEWSWEEK regrets the error.

Say Cheese...
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Photo Contest

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chance to win big!

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Runner-up: \$1,000 plus weekend trip for two to Washington, D.C.*

*Airfare and accommodations included. Some restrictions apply.

Contest Requirements:

- Include name, address, phone number and age with entry.
- All cheese used must be domestic.
- Entry must be original.
- No more than four photos of the entry may be submitted.
- Negatives must be included.
- Photos must be in color and no larger than 4x6.
- 25 word or less explanation of entry.
- 50 word or less description of most memorable cheese-eating experience.

Judging: Finalists selected by chefs based on creativity and visual appeal.

To enter: Send your entry to P.O. Box 81830, Chicago, Illinois, 60681.

Contest valid April 1–May 15, 1998

Winners will be announced in Newsweek in September.

No purchase necessary. One entry per household. Void where prohibited. Contest is open to adults ages 18 or older who are residents of the United States. Employees and families of the American Dairy Association and its member organizations, agencies, suppliers and judging organizations are not eligible to participate. By participating, each entrant accepts these rules and agrees to be bound by the decisions of the judges, which will be final. By submitting your entry, you agree that your entry becomes the sole and exclusive property of the American Dairy Association. The American Dairy Association reserves the right to modify entry or entry titles, publish or advertise the entry, its name and the name of the contestant without added compensation unless prohibited by law. There will be no communication or correspondence with contestants until the finalists have been notified. Contest is void where prohibited by law and is subject to all federal, state and local laws. Some restrictions apply. Only winners will be notified. Applicable tax is the sole responsibility of winners. Winners will be required to sign an affidavit verifying that any involved organization is not responsible for the winners on the trips.



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Let's talk about warp speed.

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Let's talk about vaporizing aliens.

...graphics that defy physical reality...

Let's talk about stellar sound.

...how 'bout a big ol' subwoofer?





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MY SPANISH STANDOFF

A fear of prejudice for our children made my husband and me decide 'English only' at home

BY GABRIELA KUNTZ

ONCE AGAIN MY 17-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER COMES home from a foreign-language fair at her high school and accusingly tells me about the pluses of being able to speak two languages. Speaker after speaker has extolled the virtues of becoming fluent in another language. My daughter is frustrated by the fact that I'm bilingual and have purposely declined to teach her to speak Spanish, my native tongue. She is not the only one who has wondered why my children don't speak Spanish. Over the years friends, acquaintances and family have asked me the same question. Teachers have asked my children. My family, of course, has been more judgmental.

I was born in Lima, Peru, and came to the United States for the first time in the early '50s, when I was 6 years old. At the parochial school my sister and I attended in Hollywood, Calif., there were only three Hispanic families at the time. I don't know when or how I learned English. I guess it was a matter of survival. My teacher spoke no Spanish. Neither did my classmates. All I can say is that at some point I no longer needed to translate. When I spoke in English I thought in English, and when I spoke in Spanish I thought in Spanish. I also learned about peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches, Halloween and Girl Scouts.

We went to a high school in Burbank. Again, there were few Hispanic students at the time. My sister and I spoke English without an "accent." This pleased my father no end. He would beam with pleasure when teachers, meeting him and my mother for the first time and hearing their labored English, would comment that they had no idea English was not our native tongue.

My brother was born in Los Angeles in 1959, and we would speak both English and Spanish to him. When he began to talk, he would point to an object and say its name in both languages. He was, in effect, a walking, talking English-Spanish dictionary. I have often wondered how his English would have turned out, but circumstances beyond our control prevented it.

Because of political changes in Peru in the early '60s (my father being a diplomat), we had to return to Peru. Although we had no formal schooling in Spanish, we were able to communicate in the language. I was thankful my parents had insisted that we speak Spanish at home. At first our relatives said that we spoke Spanish with a slight accent. But over time the accent disappeared, and we became immersed in the culture, our culture. My brother began his schooling in Peru, and even though he attended a school in which English was taught, he speaks the language with an accent. I find that ironic because he was the one born in the United States, and my sister and I are the naturalized citizens.

In 1972 I fell in love and married an American who had been living in Peru for a number of years. Our first son was born



there, but when he was 6 months old, we came back to the States. My husband was going to get his doctorate at a university in Texas.

It was in Texas that, for the first time, I lived in a community with many Hispanics in the United States. I encountered them at the grocery store, the laundry, the mall, church. I also began to see how the Anglos in the community treated them. Of course, I don't mean all, but enough to make me feel uncomfortable. Because I'm dark and have dark eyes and hair, I personally experienced that look, that unspoken and spoken word expressing prejudice. If I entered a department store, one of two things was likely to happen. Either I was ignored, or I was followed closely by the salesperson. The garments I took into the changing room were carefully counted. My check at the grocery store took more scrutiny than an Anglo's. My children were complimented on how "clean" they were instead of how cute. Somehow, all Hispanics seemed to be lumped into the category of illegal immigrants, notwithstanding that many Hispanic families have lived for generations in Texas and other Southwestern states.

To be fair, I also noticed that the Latinos lived in their own enclaves, attended their own churches, and many of them spoke

English with an accent. And with their roots firmly established in the United States, their Spanish was not perfect either.

It was the fact that they spoke neither language well and the prejudice I experienced that prompted my husband and me to decide that English, and English only, would be spoken in our house. By this time my second dark-haired, dark-eyed son had been born, and we did not want to take a chance that if I spoke Spanish to them, somehow their English would be compromised. In other words, they would have an accent. I had learned to speak English without one, but I wasn't sure they would.

When our eldest daughter was born in 1980, we were living in southeast Missouri. Again, we decided on an English-only policy. If our children were going to live in the United States, then their English should be beyond reproach. Of course, by eliminating Spanish we have also eliminated part of their heritage. Am I sorry? About the culture, yes; about the language, no. In the Missouri Legislature, there are bills pending for some sort of English-only law. I recently read an article in a national magazine about the Ozarks where some of the townspeople are concerned about the numbers of Hispanics who have come to work in poultry plants there. It seemed to me that their "concerns" were actually prejudice. There is a definite creeping in of anti-Hispanic sentiment in this country. Even my daughter, yes, the one who is upset over not being bilingual, admits to hearing "Hispanic jokes" said in front of her at school. You see, many don't realize, despite her looks, that she's a minority. I want to believe that her flawless English is a contributing factor.

Last summer I took my 10-year-old daughter to visit my brother, who is working in Mexico City. She picked up a few phrases and words with the facility that only the very young can. I just might teach her Spanish. You see, she is fair with light brown hair and blue eyes.

KUNTZ is a retired elementary-school teacher living in Cape Girardeau, Mo.



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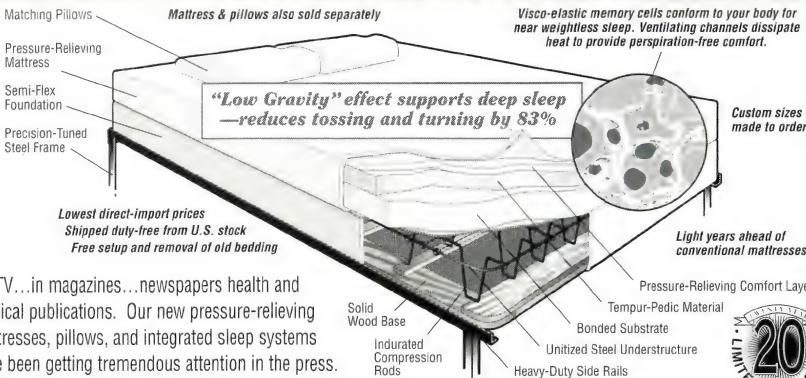
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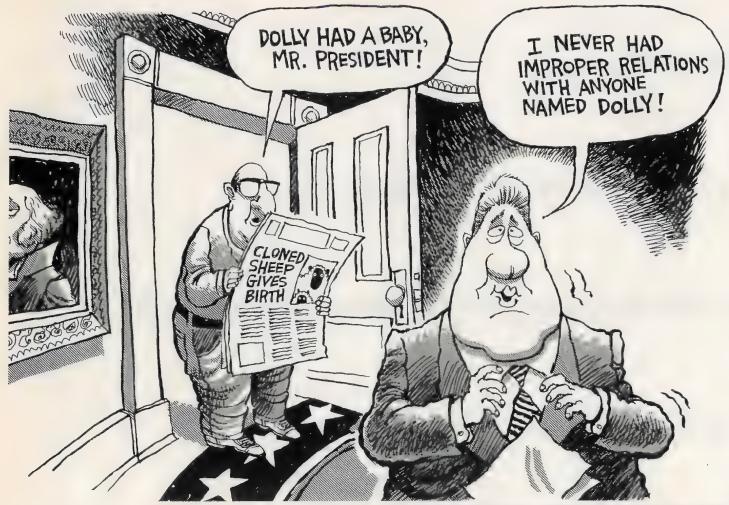
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PERSPECTIVES

“It isn’t looking very impressive. They’re banging their books and stuff.”

Illinois seventh-grader **Will Boyd**, observing lawmakers screaming at each other during a school trip to the state capital



“I’m going on the record. I’m not a journalist. I’m a kangaroo! I’ll see Mr. Blumenthal in court.” *Cyber commentator Matt Drudge, on a federal district court judge’s decision not to dismiss a libel suit brought by White House aide Sidney Blumenthal against the gossip columnist*

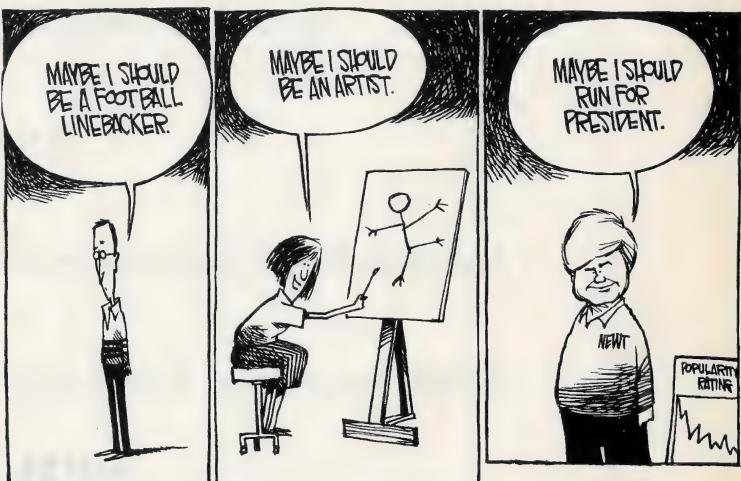
“Many people don’t know who we are. I played in Singapore in 1996, and people wanted to know if I kept a gun in my house or if I rode a camel. Now we have an opportunity to present our country, our culture, our people.” *Iranian soccer-team member Mohammad Khakpour; the country has qualified for the World Cup for the first time in 20 years*



“I guess we still have some bugs to work out.” *Microsoft chairman Bill Gates, after his computer crashed as he was demonstrating the forthcoming Windows 98 at the Comdex computer exposition in Chicago last week*

“Everybody wonders when we will have the first female American president, but what will become evident here is that we’ve already had her.” *Neil Meron, producer of an upcoming ABC mini-series about Nancy Reagan*

“I feel like our attention to girls actually engendered this new attention to boys. It used to be when we talked about gender, we just meant women. This is such a relief!” *Marie Wilson, president of the Ms. Foundation for Women, which created Take Our Daughters to Work Day*



“You would be amazed. Everybody’s lip is different. It’s like a fingerprint, really.” *Food stylist Norman Stewart, responsible for coating upper lips of celebrities for the dairy industry’s “milk mustache” ad campaign*

“There are many fine, honest, hardworking, God-fearing people, I believe, but unfortunately I fell into the hands of a very small group of people who were totally incompetent.” *Elvis E. (Johnny) Johnson, on IRS workers. After fighting the agency since 1981, Johnson finally won a \$3.5 million settlement against it.*

“Go veggie.” *A spokesman for Paul McCartney, on ways to pay tribute to McCartney’s wife, vegetarian and animal-rights activist Linda McCartney, who died of cancer*



Scott and Loraine are happily married,

with one little exception.

They never agree on anything.

He says "modern." She says "colonial." She likes regular. He wants extra-crispy.

So imagine the reaction when they announced it was time for a new car.

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"A real driving machine," remarked Scott.

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people were amazed. Finally, common ground.

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he replied, "I don't think so." Oh, well, here we go again.

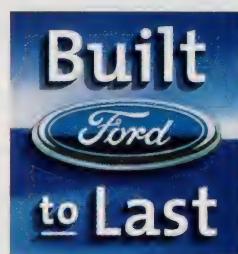


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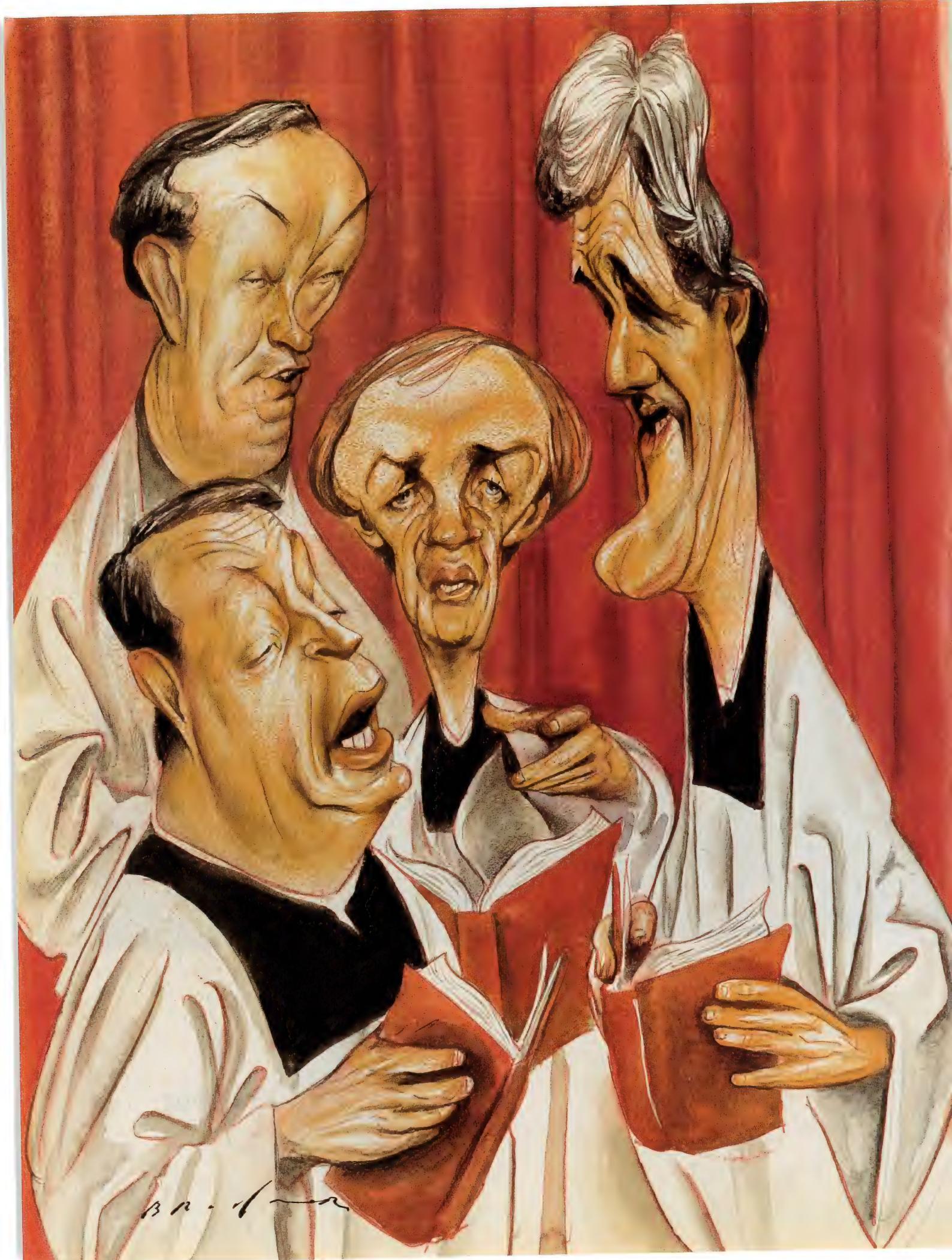
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They're old pols preaching a post-Clinton vision, from schools to Social Security. Why three Democrats who may take on Gore—Kerry, Kerrey and Bradley—are singing conservative hymns. BY MATTHEW COOPER

The New Choirboys

IT'S BIG-THINK TIME FOR JOHN KERRY. FOR MONTHS THE Massachusetts senator has been pondering education. For Kerry, the debate over schools has become a mindless Kabuki ritual: while liberals want more money for public education and conservatives demand private-school vouchers, kids fall farther behind. "It's stupid," he says. So the Boston Brahmin (his middle name is Forbes) and veteran senator (three terms on the Hill) has been talking to everyone from teachers unions to conservative reformers. The result? This spring, Kerry plans to commit the supreme

Democratic heresy. He's considering, NEWSWEEK has learned, embracing school vouchers if conservatives do their part and back vastly increased resources for public education. It is, says a source familiar with Kerry's thinking, "a grand compromise."

In the '90s, this is the way you start a national conversation—and a national campaign. In 1991 Bill Clinton jumped to the head of the Democratic class with a triptych of contrarian policy speeches at Georgetown in which he proposed, among other things, limiting the dole to two years. By distancing himself from the Democratic faithful, he won—and so, of course, did his ideas about welfare reform. These days breaking with orthodoxy is the surest way of breaking away from your opponents. In the post-Clinton era that idea race is likely to be among the centrists who decide to take on Al

Gore. Leading that pack is what might be called the Sanctimonious Middle—three very smart, very compelling and, at times, annoyingly preachy middle-of-the-roaders. In their minds, they are above worldly choices: men with missions to lead us to a post-ideological promised land.

Who are they? There's Kerry, wondering whether to go tame to tame with Al Gore. His homophone, Sen. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, is also working through important issues like Social Security reform and eying the 2000 presidential race. From his perch at Stanford University, former New Jersey senator Bill Bradley lectures on race and campaign-finance reform. Each says he'll decide by the year-end whether to run. None, though, is likely to

knock off Gore; with so few issues dividing them from the veep, their campaigns may turn on what Freud called the "narcissism of small differences." And for all their talk of moving to higher ground, each has spent decades in traditional politics, raising money and cutting deals. But that doesn't make their causes any less significant. The issues they're mulling are not just political markers but the policy meat of the next two years. Kerry, Kerrey & Bradley—"sounds like a law firm," quips Gore adviser Roy Neel—are as emblematic of quiet but increasingly urgent debates, from entitlements to campaign finance, as they are of the perennial pre-presidential jockeying.

The conventional wisdom holds that the schism in the Democratic Party is Gore vs. Richard Gephardt—the internationalist vice president vs. the tough-on-trade House Democratic leader. Gephardt's labor-focused world view—his criticism of free-trade agreements, his doubts about the virtues of balancing the budget—all are manna to the Democratic stalwarts. But the choir he's preaching to is, barring some eco-

nomic downturn, getting smaller. In 1992 the moderate Clinton-Kerrey-Paul Tsongas vote dwarfed the Tom Harkin-Jerry Brown fiery liberal vote. And a survey last year by the president's pollster, Mark Penn, found that rank-and-file Democrats are mostly New Demo-

A holy war: To challenge Gore, Bradley, Kerrey and Kerry must offer themselves as fearless—and moderate—truth tellers

crats. That suggests that the fight of the millennium isn't left vs. right but center vs. center.

But can another centrist knock off Gore? It won't be easy. Despite the veep's stumbles—his measly \$353 check to charities, his managing to tour tornado-devastated Alabama without touching any victims, his Buddhist-temple follies—Gore is nevertheless the likely heir to what is (so far) a charmed economy and falling crime rates. Still, front runners almost always falter. This is where Kerry, Kerrey & Bradley come in. They are Virtual Gores. Fiftysomething dark-haired white guys, they have Al's wonkishness. But only Bradley has his stiffness; Kerry has some of the "Last Hurrah" Boston pol in him; Kerrey deploys an earthy humor on Don Imus's radio show and in Congress. Last week he walked the halls, sharing ribald humor about the new anti-impotence drug Viagra.

When it comes to sheer organization, Kerrey may be in the best position to take on Gore. He already has a national field director and a PAC. It's very different now from when he ran in 1992. His organization was a shambles. His message was muddled—a focus-group-driven mishmash that inspired no one, even though Kerrey has an inspiring history as a Medal of Honor winner who left part of his leg in Vietnam. "The more I go up to New Hampshire, the more I realize how unprepared I was back in '91," he says.

What accounts for Kerrey's transformation? Friends point to his experience running the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee for the last three and a half

years. As the point man for electing Democrats, Kerrey has become accustomed to the breathtakingly boring chores of national office: living in airport terminals, enduring the mind-numbing routine of sitting at the phone, "call sheets" before him, hustling money. At a recent meeting of Democratic senators, the once aloof pol played

hardball—reading the names of colleagues who hadn't coughed up enough for the committee. One Southern Democrat went back to his office and promptly hit the phones.

Kerrey's most urgent battle at the moment is not in Iowa or New Hampshire but in Washington. The topic: Social Security. For the better part of a decade, Kerrey has

been a doomsayer about entitlements, predicting disaster and challenging the view that the big programs—Social Security and Medicare—could not be touched. Now Clinton has opened the door to reform, and Kerrey is leading a decidedly radical charge. He wants to create "wealth accounts" in which citizens could invest part of their Social Security as they saw fit. Suddenly, entitlement re-

Memo to Al Gore: Here's Your Comp

The True Believers



Richard Gephardt

After Gore, the House minority leader's got the best organization. But while his tough-on-trade tack will play well with organized labor, the Democratic Party doesn't seem to lean that way anymore—unless the Dow goes south.



Paul Wellstone

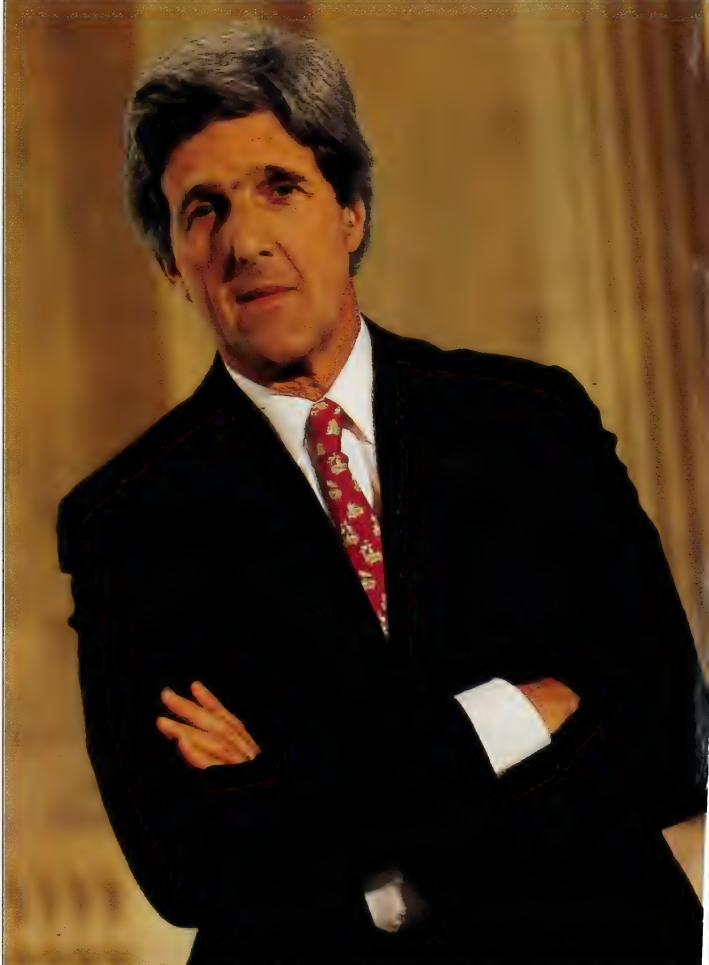
The earthy Minnesotan is the anti-Gore. With his send-'em-a-message shtik, he could upset in a state like Iowa. His liberalism has more in common with RFK's than Clinton's, and he could stir those few remaining old-time Democrats.



Jesse Jackson

The reverend sat out the 1992 and 1996 races. But aides suggest he might get in next time. He could make an issue of those left out of the soaring economy, forcing Democrats to discuss politically uncomfortable subjects—from poverty to affirmative action.

The Sanctimonious Middle



John Kerry The other war hero, Kerry has staked out a middle ground on education, race and using churches for day care, but he's got campaign debts. Secret weapon: his wife, Teresa Heinz, is worth \$800 million. Trouble spot: "tax and spend" liberal charge.

Kerry, Kerrey and Bradley—
'sounds like a law firm,' says a Gore
aide—know that breaking with
Democratic orthodoxy is the surest way
of breaking away from your opponents

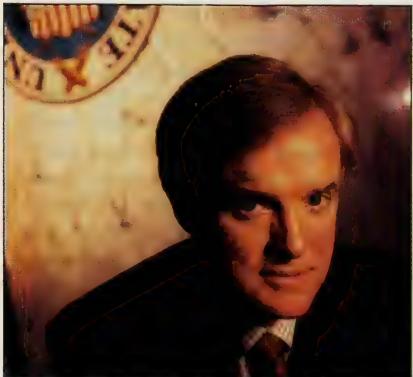
From economics to entitlements, potential rivals are positioning themselves to challenge Gore in 2000. The shifting shape of the Democratic universe:

Bill Bradley His Knicks teammates called him "Mr. President." But the Rhodes scholar will have to hustle money and endorsements if he wants to get in the White House playoffs. His erudition is a double-edged sword. On one hand, his lofty talk of racial reconciliation and civil society is, at times, compelling. It can also be ethereal.



Bob Kerrey

Kerrey's penchant for Walker Percy novels and blunt talk about entitlements play well with the media. His work for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee has earned him chits with party regulars—but means he's firmly enmeshed in the fundraising culture so many voters hate.



form could be about rolling in dough, not eating your peas. Kerrey enthuses about the possibilities—a shrinking gap between rich and poor, a sense of financial security that would put Americans at ease with global trade. "Most people might even give more than \$353 to charity," he says dryly.

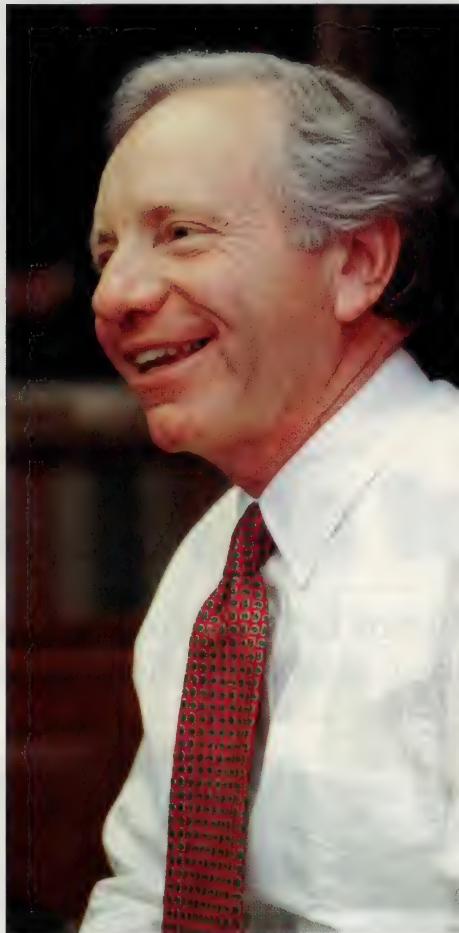
Coming up with ideas has never been a problem for Bill Bradley. During his 18 years in the Senate, the Rhodes scholar was Mr. Tax Reform. But the Bradley issue that may carry the most weight now is campaign-finance reform. He's talked it up for years—even advocating a constitutional amendment to get around some thorny Supreme Court decisions that make it difficult to put a ceiling on spending. The time for reform may have come. Last week Newt Gingrich had to back down and allow a vote on reform to take place in the

House. If it ultimately fails, or if the public thinks what passes falls short of real reform, Bradley could be a credible "outside" voice.

But that's if he runs. Bradley's basketball teammates called him "Mr. President," but every time he's considered taking the plunge he's hesitated. "This time," says one pal, "he's the one talking about it instead of the rest of the world just speculating." Bradley's national reputation guarantees healthy fund-raising—an ironic twist if he campaigns against campaign money. But could he raise spirits? His ethereal style makes enviro Gore look like a cigar-chomping pol. Case in point: at Bradley's Web site—www.billbradley.com—you can download Bradley telling PBS's Charlie Rose how he "allowed myself to grieve" the night he left the Senate.

The Right Stuff

Joe Lieberman With Sam Nunn out of politics, there's no conservative in play for the White House. Though the Connecticut senator—and Democratic Leadership Council satrap—won't jump in, he can keep the debate tacking right.



John Kerry seems the longest shot. He's the least well known of the Sanctimonious Middle, and he's embraced virtually everything the Clinton-Gore administration has stood for. The Vietnam War hero, though, has a capacity to surprise. He has been steadily moving away from what he calls "the political-correctness police." In 1992 he gave a major address questioning, although not renouncing, affirmative action. Last year he teamed up with Republican Kit Bond to bolster day care—including funding religious groups. Indeed, Kerry talks up faith-based charities with Bill Bennett-like vigor. "No one can tell me these programs don't work," he says.

Money is Kerry's burden and blessing. Right now he's sitting on nearly \$2 million in debt from his 1996 scorched-earth Senate battle against William Weld. But Kerry is married to Teresa Heinz, whose late husband, Sen. John Heinz, was an heir to the pickle-and-ketchup fortune. Her estimated worth: more than \$800 million. So far Kerry has declined to spend her money on his debts. When asked whether he might deploy her awesome wealth in a presidential bid, Kerry played down the possibility but told *NEWSWEEK* he'd "leave the window open" to it.

That leaves Gore, who seems vulnerable but probably isn't. While Reagan was strictly neutral when Bush ran in '88, no one doubts that Clinton will use his power to help his loyal No. 2. Moreover, Gore isn't in Congress—and no sitting member has won since 1960. Indeed, Bob Kerrey tells *NEWSWEEK* that he'd probably decline to seek re-election to the Senate in 2000 if he runs for president.

But that's in the future. For the moment, Kerrey is working New Hampshire, where he can be seen doing things like helping wire elementary schools to the Internet. Last week Bradley talked race in Maryland, and Kerry took to the Senate floor to vote against a GOP measure that would create education savings accounts. It wasn't, Kerry said, "a real engagement" of the issue. That's coming, he hinted. Suddenly, the horse race is the idea race. ■



JOSEPH LOUW—LIFE MAGAZINE, © TIME INC.

RACE

Death of an Assassin

James Earl Ray, Martin Luther King Jr.'s confessed killer, finally dies—but the conspiracy theories will live on

BY EVAN THOMAS

JAMES EARL RAY, SMALL-TIME CRIMINAL and big-time hater, won't be much missed. But his death last week, of liver disease at the age of 70, is a boon for conspiracy theorists. Sentenced to 99 years in prison after pleading guilty to killing Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968, Ray recanted and claimed that he was a patsy in a larger plot. Ray's revised story was embraced by King's family and many of the preacher's lieutenants—figures eager to prove that King had been martyred by the federal government. Suspected culprits: the military and the FBI. In 1997 King's son Dexter shook hands with Ray and professed the King family's belief in Ray's innocence.

The assassination of the great civil-rights leader by the U.S. government would be a shocking scandal and sounds like a thrilling Oliver Stone movie (in fact, the family has sold Stone the rights to make a film about King). But it almost surely did not happen. If Ray conspired with others, it is more likely the plotters were relatives or obscure racists than top federal officials. To the King family this explanation falls short. In their view, the civil-rights leader was murdered be-



cause he had grown radical. By 1968 King no longer simply wanted to abolish Jim Crow; he was trying to end the war in Vietnam and force major economic reforms. The "power structure" allegedly sensed this and, fearing revolution, had King killed. But Ray's true story says more about life at the bottom of society in the civil-rights era than it does about high crimes in Washington.

Ray was a reasonably clever sociopath. He had grown up in poor river towns in Missouri and Illinois; the region was called "Little Dixie" because of its ties to the Ku

have vetoed. Three days after Ray had been sentenced, he said he had been framed—he was just a "legman," he insisted, recruited by a mysterious drug dealer named Raoul. (No one fitting Ray's description of Raoul has ever been found.)

King loyalists quickly suspected the FBI. J. Edgar Hoover, to be sure, hated King, whom he wiretapped and harassed for years. But in 1978 a painstaking probe by a congressional committee concluded there was no evidence of any federal involvement in King's death. If there was a con-

Echoes of Memphis: The Lorraine in '68 (left), Dexter meets Ray in '97 (below)

Klux Klan. As a young man he was fascinated by Hitler, and in prison refused a transfer to more comfortable quarters. The reason? The "honor farm" was integrated. In April 1967 he escaped from the Missouri state pen. According to Gerald Posner's new book "Killing the Dream," Ray may have heard of a \$50,000 bounty on King's head while he was in prison. Posner reports that just weeks after the jailbreak, Ray told his brothers, "I'm going to kill that n--- King."

He began stalking the civil-rights champion, following King to Memphis in April 1968. Ray checked into a boardinghouse looking out on the Lorraine Motel. He rejected the first room he was offered: it didn't have a view of King's lodgings. The second one did.

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life," King had preached the night before. "But I'm not concerned about that now. I'm not fearing any man. I have been to the mountaintop." On April 4, as he lingered on the Lorraine's balcony, a bullet smashed through his cheek. Ray's fingerprints were on a .30-06 rifle found outside the boardinghouse. He tried to escape to Rhodesia, at the time a white sanctuary, but the law caught up with him in London. To save Ray from the death penalty, his well-known criminal lawyer, Percy Foreman, recommended a guilty plea—a deal the King family could

spiracy, it was more likely a small-time plot. Ray could have learned about a bounty for King while he was in prison. There is another possibility: in his book, Posner suggests that Ray's brothers may have played some role (they have adamantly denied it, and have never been charged). The Grapevine Tavern, a St. Louis saloon run by one of Ray's brothers, was a center of pro-George Wallace sentiment, and John

Sutherland, the man who offered a price for King's life, was a key Wallace supporter in the state. "The Grapevine," writes Posner, "was a place where a bounty on King could be comfortably discussed."

Ray was a canny convict. In Tennessee prisons after his plea, he broke out three times. Ray died demanding a trial; the Kings supported his bid and have lobbied the president to reinvestigate the murder.

But most witnesses are dead, and the ones who have come forward are flawed (a woman championed by the Ray team says "Raoul" also killed JFK). Still, the Kings' attraction to the larger theories about the fallen leader's death is not hard to fathom. A federal conspiracy seems more commensurate with the genuine greatness of the target than the sad truth that a hater lucked into the shot of a lifetime. ■

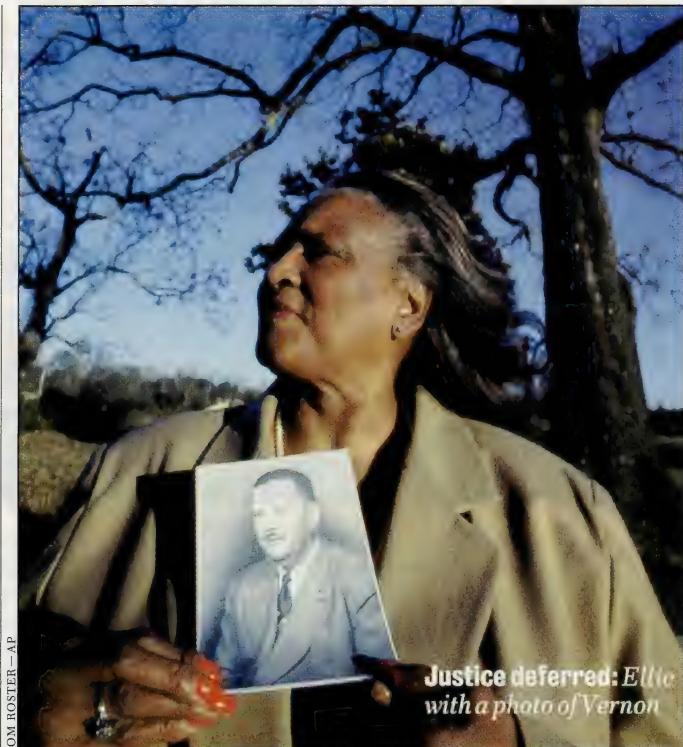
Mississippi Reckoning

Prosecutors ponder reopening another '60s murder

BY VERN E. SMITH

BY 1966, MISSISSIPPI NAACP leader Vernon Dahmer and his wife, Ellie, were used to sleeping in shifts. After their children turned in, one parent would sit quietly and listen for the Ku Klux Klan—shotgun in hand, curtains drawn tightly to make it harder for nightriders to see inside. But both were asleep the night of Jan. 10, perhaps tired after a long day at the country store where Vernon urged fellow blacks to pay their \$2 poll tax and register to vote. The family woke to the sound of gas jugs and a torch being hurled through the windows. As flames consumed the Hattiesburg farmhouse, Vernon handed daughter Bettie, 10, out to Ellie. The next day Dahmer died of smoke inhalation. His own voter card wouldn't arrive in the mail until after his funeral.

More than 30 years later, the Dahmers are still waiting for the nightmare to be over. Four whites charged in connection with Dahmer's death were the first Klansmen ever convicted for crimes against a black man in Mississippi, but none was jailed for more than a few years. Billy Roy Pitts, who dropped his gun at the crime scene and later turned state's evidence, served just three years on his federal sentence—and no one ever went looking when he didn't show up for his longer state term. Worst of all, Sam Bowers,



TOM ROSTER/AP

Imperial Wizard of the White Knights of the KKK and the man many believe ordered the attack, was tried four times without success.

Sam Bowers is now a reclusive septuagenarian living in nearby Laurel, Miss.—a Baptist Sunday-school teacher who owns a pinball-machine company called Sambo Amusements. But according to the FBI, Bowers's Klan group is responsible for the killing of 10 civil-rights activists, including Dahmer, and bombings or beatings of 300 others. Bowers was convicted only

once, for federal civil-rights violations in the 1964 "Mississippi Burning" case of three workers murdered in Neshoba County. But Bowers's four trials for murder, arson and violation of civil rights in the Dahmer case all ended in hung juries. Bowers's lawyer, Lawrence Arrington, maintains that Bowers will never go to jail because he wasn't in Hattiesburg on Jan. 10, 1966. "They can't put him any closer than 30 miles away," he says. (Bowers pleaded not guilty in each of his trials.)

But Billy Roy Pitts has testi-

fied under oath that Bowers ordered Dahmer's execution. After the Jackson Clarion-Ledger ran a story on Pitts in February, he turned himself in—and said he'd testify again. New evidence also suggests there may be grounds for reopening the case on the question of whether the Klan tampered with the juries back in the '60s. After the Dahmers appeared on local television in 1994, Vernon Jr. got a call from a man with Klan ties who said, "I've been thinking about it over the years, how wrong it was, and I just decided to do something about it." By 1997, the caller and several others had agreed to cooperate with the D.A.'s office.

Prosecutors say that meetings last summer between the new informants, Bowers and his friend Roy Wilson confirmed some of their suspicions: Wilson said Bowers was afraid he might finally be convicted "because he didn't have the contacts he once had, that a lot of them had died." Soon after, decades-old FBI notes pointing to Klan jury tampering surfaced. Another new witness came forward, saying he was there at a meeting when Bowers discussed the plan to kill Dahmer. Investigators have subpoenaed files from the state's anti-integration Sovereignty Commission on the men known to have been at that meeting or at Dahmer's farm the night of the murder. And a judge has ruled that any incriminating statements Bowers might have given to state historians in a confidential 1983 interview can be used as evidence at a future trial. All this has prosecutors estimating that they may soon be able to arrest Bowers. Three decades after the fire, the Dahmers may finally get some answers.

With SARAH VAN BOVEN

The View From the Cockpit

The crew of the warplane that brought down an Italian gondola in a blur of speed and confusion plays defense



BOB JORDAN - AP

In the spotlight:
Ashby, Schweitzer,
Raney and Seagraves

BY GREGORY L. VISTICA
AND EVAN THOMAS

THE E-MAIL THAT MARINE AVIATOR Capt. Richard Ashby sent his mother on the night of Feb. 3 was terse: "If you've been watching the news, you know about the jet that hit the ski gondola cable. ... I was the one flying the jet. My crew and I are lucky to be alive. We did nothing wrong. ... We didn't see the cable and that's about all I'm allowed to tell you." Ashby's mother, Carol Anderson, learned more when she turned on the TV. Her son's EA-6B Prowler had sliced through a ski-lift cable in an Alpine valley in Italy. A gondola had plunged some 300 feet, killing all 20 people on board. The Italians were demanding a criminal trial for the American pilot and crew. President Clinton had personally reassured Italy's prime minister that the accident would be thoroughly investigated—and that justice would be done.

Early stories strongly hinted that Ashby and his crew—Capts. Joseph Schweitzer, William Raney II and Chandler Seagraves—had been joyriding and hot-dogging. Last

week a military judge ruled that Ashby and his crew must face the military equivalent of a grand jury in May and June, and courts-martial are likely to follow. It is far from certain, however, that Ashby and his mates will be punished. Viewed from the perspective of pilot and crew, the case is less clear-cut than the headlines suggest—and viewed from the courts, the truth about the tragedy may be difficult to determine.

Ashby and his crew, according to sources close to the pilot, had no idea they were heading into a valley with a ski lift strung between its peaks. His military charts showed no cables at that site, though they had been there for more than 30 years. Pilots are generally not supposed to fly below 500 feet on training runs. Crammed with heavy electronic equipment, less maneuverable than a fighter jet, the Prowler is supposed to fly no lower than 1,000 feet. In northern Italy, the minimum was raised last year to 2,000 feet to cut down on noise, but apparently Ashby and his crew didn't get the word. At the pre-flight briefing the day of the accident, Ashby told his crew that he planned to fly at 1,000 feet at a speed of 450 knots.

Investigators now say Ashby and his crew flew lower and faster—as low as 300 feet, at a speed of up to 550 knots—as the Prowler streaked down valleys and between mountain peaks under a clear, blue sky that afternoon. The crew may indeed have been joyriding, taking a last spin before the end of their six-month tour overseas. Italians living nearby routinely complain about low-flying warplanes buzzing their fields. Still, Ashby is regarded as a by-the-book pilot. A born-again Christian, he was slated to move on from Prowlers to flying the flashier F/A-18 Hornet. He was rusty, though: he had not flown a low-altitude mission in more than seven months. Most of his flying time had been over Bosnia on routine "milk run" patrols.

Ashby's radar altimeter was set to emit a buzzing signal if the Prowler fell below 800 feet. All four crew members told their lawyers they didn't hear the alarm go off. But it is not uncommon for military pilots not to depend on the alarm. On low-level flights in mountainous terrain, pilots prefer to eyeball the peaks and valleys, rather than watch the altimeter.

Ashby never saw the cable. He told investigators that he saw a flash of yellow—the gondola, filled with skiers, just beginning its descent from Mount Cermis—off to his right. He had about a second to react. Jamming the "stick" forward, he pushed the plane's nose down—not up—and to the left. As the Prowler banked, its right wing sliced one cable; the tail caught the other.

Under Marine Corps rules, if a pilot is flying recklessly, crew members are required to call out, "Knock it off." In the Prowler that day, none did. Ashby may have lost what pilots call "situational awareness." Maneuvering in confusing terrain or poor weather, pilots sometimes cannot tell up from down, side from side. Ashby had never flown down this valley before, and he had briefly wandered off course before the accident.

In that first e-mail to his mother, Ashby wrote, "I need your prayers. I'm worried that they are going to make us the scapegoats because it is an international incident. I've been poked and prodded by the U.S. and Italians all day. Haven't eaten or slept. They just gave us something to sleep and that's what I'm going to do now." Ashby has hired an able lawyer, Frank Spinner, and according to his mother, he is spending a lot of time with the chaplain. ■

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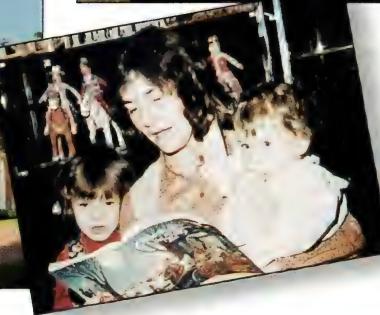


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CRIME

The Strange Case of a Palm Beach Poseur

A father who abducted his daughters is captured

By DEBRA ROSENBERG
AND T. TRENT GEGAX

DR. WILLIAM MARTIN SEEMED PERFECTLY at home in the muraled dining room at Mar-a-Lago, the gold-leafed, Moorish villa Donald Trump turned into the ultimate Palm Beach country club. With his \$2.2 million oceanfront mansion and his candy-apple red Ferrari, the handsome and cerebral Martin was a mainstay on the black-tie, charity-ball circuit. Yet he was best known in Palm Beach for doting on his two daughters, spending hours at their swim practices and showing off their trophies. He never seemed to work. Some friends thought he was a Harvard-trained psychologist. Others pegged him for a CIA man. But on Florida's most exclusive strip of sand, "you just don't inquire," says attorney Robert M. Montgomery, one of Martin's friends.

Martin's socialite neighbors could not have known that the smooth talker had a reputation in Massachusetts, too—not for his charm but because he was on a list of those "wanted" by police. Martin was real-

ly Stephen Fagan, 56, a former karate instructor and failed lawyer. Last week, after two decades on the lam, he was charged with the 1979 kidnapping of his own daughters after a bitter divorce. Fagan claims he rescued the girls, ages 5 and 2, from an abusive mother. (The charges were not substantiated by a court investigation.) "What I want is in the best interest of the children," Fagan said, after being released on \$250,000 bail.

But Fagan's life suggests he has often wanted far more. He was a nightclub bouncer when he met coat-check girl Barbara Kurth. In 1973 they traveled to Haiti, where Fagan divorced his first wife and married Kurth on the same day. Even then Fagan cultivated an aura of wealth and mystery. He bought grand homes, filling them with Oriental rugs and exotic artwork. Kurth doubted that Fagan's salary as a

Life on the lam:
Fagan lived well with his fourth wife (far left, top and bottom); his daughters (left, with their mother in '78) are standing by him

end visit and disappeared. Most parental kidnappings—there are thousands annually—are resolved relatively quickly. Kurth wasn't that lucky. She filed police reports, hired investigators and spent her savings. Nothing worked.

Fagan, meanwhile, moved South with an alias and a new Social Security number of a deceased 6-year-old. He told his daughters that their mother had been killed in a car crash. "Martin" was able to finance his Palm Beach salad days by marrying well: he eloped with a wealthy Florida widow in 1986. Shortly after he divorced her, he married his fourth and current wife, real-estate maven Harriet Golding. Last fall police received an anonymous tip and, after investigating for months, swept in.

The revelations have surely upended the world of Rachael and Wendy (now known as Lisa) Martin, now 23 and 21. Lisa, a star swimmer, will graduate next month from the University of Southern California; Rachael, a Columbia University grad, works at a New York charitable foundation. Fagan's lawyer said the girls had no desire to see their mother; they will speak out this week. Last week the sisters held hands in a Massachusetts courtroom to show support for Fagan, the only parent they say they can remember. To prod their memories, Kurth released childhood photos. She's still hoping for a happy ending. ■



End of the road: Fagan faces charges back home

The Romance of the Marketplace

Not so long ago, there was a real war between the state and the market. A new book explains why the conflict seems settled. BY MICHAEL ELLIOTT

THERE ARE BIG FILMS ("TITANIC") AND THERE ARE SMALL films ("The Full Monty"). And there are big books (anything by David Halberstam) and small books (anything by Anita Brookner). "The Commanding Heights," by Daniel Yergin and Joseph Stanislaw, is a big book, which doesn't mean it's a long one; in fact, just 383 pages of text. The authors, who are partners in an economic consultancy as well as accomplished writers (Yergin won a 1992 Pulitzer for "The Prize," his history of the oil industry), explain how the frontier between the state and the market has shifted in recent decades.

The book reveals the temper of our times. From India to Israel, from Mexico to Moscow, it has become a truism that economic activities should be dominated by market forces. As a consequence, political debate has been squashed into narrow channels. Until recently, the world's central political struggle was between competing visions of the ways in which economic largesse could be created and distributed. On one side were those who trusted Adam Smith's invisible hand; on the other, those who assigned a prominent role to government, shaping, or supplanting, the market. For now, suggest Yergin and Stanislaw, that debate is over. Around the world, nominally left-of-center governments advance what used to be thought right-wing economic policies. The intellectual climate of the era has been transformed.

This was not preordained. In 1945 Americans, for example, could look back on 16 years of recession and war: a period of both the failure of capitalism and the triumph of governmental institutions mobilized for a common good. For the socialists who took power in Britain in 1945, the market was a chaotic, unfair mechanism that could never stamp out disease or poverty. For newly independent nations like India, central planning of the economy seemed a natural path to wealth. Throughout the world, it was axiomatic that government should guide the economy, and control or own its commanding heights (a phrase coined by Lenin, which should have given more people pause than it did).

After World War II the noncommunist world "mixed" elements of the state and the market, with resounding success. In France the period following 1945 is known as the "30 glorious years." Yet in time the new order failed, not because bureaucrats are venal idiots,

but because they aren't supermen. Through the price mechanism, markets continually adapt to changing circumstances and new information. There never was—and never will be—a bureaucracy so omniscient that it can rival the market's subtlety. Economists are familiar with the concept of "market failure"—when the price of a contract does not capture all its costs (for example, because neither party pays for the pollution it creates). But from India's nonproductive fertilizer plants to Amtrak's creaking trains, "government failure" is far more common.

Government failures are expensive, and the expense is translated into taxes.

Ever-higher taxes are unpopular and debilitating. It was that, as much as anything, that prompted the careers of the two political heroes of the market revolution—

Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan. Yergin and Stanislaw plainly venerate Thatcher, the goddess of privatization, a phenomenon that in less than two decades has swept the world. They are less generous to Reagan (is it still impossible for all but true believers to admit he was a giant?). Yet without Reagan's blunt willingness to confront Soviet communism, the market revolution would not have come as far or as fast as it has.

"The Commanding Heights" has other weaknesses. Its discussion of the Asian economic miracle has been largely overtaken by events. It is skimpy on the role of technology in creating global markets. (Goods have been shipped across the world since silks made their way from China to ancient Rome, but today's globalized economy depends on enormous flows of capital, unthinkable before the computer.) But the book tells a compelling story very well; and more important, it is wise. In a wonderful concluding chapter, Yergin and Stanislaw ask all the right questions. Will global markets trample on national identities? Are they fair? Does the market mean that greed is good? (No, it doesn't: as the authors write, "To choose the market focus is not to embrace a money culture.")

One regret: "The Commanding Heights" doesn't really place today's global economy in a broad historical context. Fortunately, two other recent books do. "Guns, Germs and Steel," by Jared Diamond (which this month won a Pulitzer), gallops through the last 10,000 years; "The Wealth and Poverty of Nations," by David A. Landes, covers the last 1,000. The next rainy weekend, treat yourself, read all three, and learn why today's world is the way it is. ■



Dancing into history:
Thatcher and
Reagan led the
triumph of the right

ASIA

Soul and Sushi

Forget what you've heard. For African-American professionals looking for a fair shake, Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong are hot.

BY LYNETTE CLEMETSON

DAMON WOODS LANDED IN BEIJING to study Chinese two years ago with a chip on his shoulder. An American black man, he had been warned by friends and family that the Chinese looked down on Americans and American blacks in particular. Woods, then 21, got on the plane anyway. For the next year he struggled through language classes. He also learned the joys of Chinese life. He drank rice wine late into the night with Chinese families. He bargained and joked with street hawkers. He chatted with villagers on long train journeys. When it came time to fly back to Pittsburgh last year, Woods discovered he didn't want to go. "So what was it like as a black man in Asia?" friends at home asked, waiting for horror stories. "It was liberating," answered Woods.

Liberating? Even a decade ago, few black students would

have considered studying in Asia. And corporate America resisted sending black employees across the Pacific, believing—like Woods's circle of friends—that they wouldn't be accepted. But in the past few years, African-Americans' presence in the region has grown substantially, as black lawyers, bankers and other professionals joined the great investment rush into East Asia. Once they arrived, they found a surprising reality: life in Asia is in many ways more comfortable than at home. In U.S. cities where political and social agendas are set along race lines, racial concerns consume daily life. In Beijing, says Woods, "I can drop all of that racial mess and get on with my life." In practical terms, that translates into the

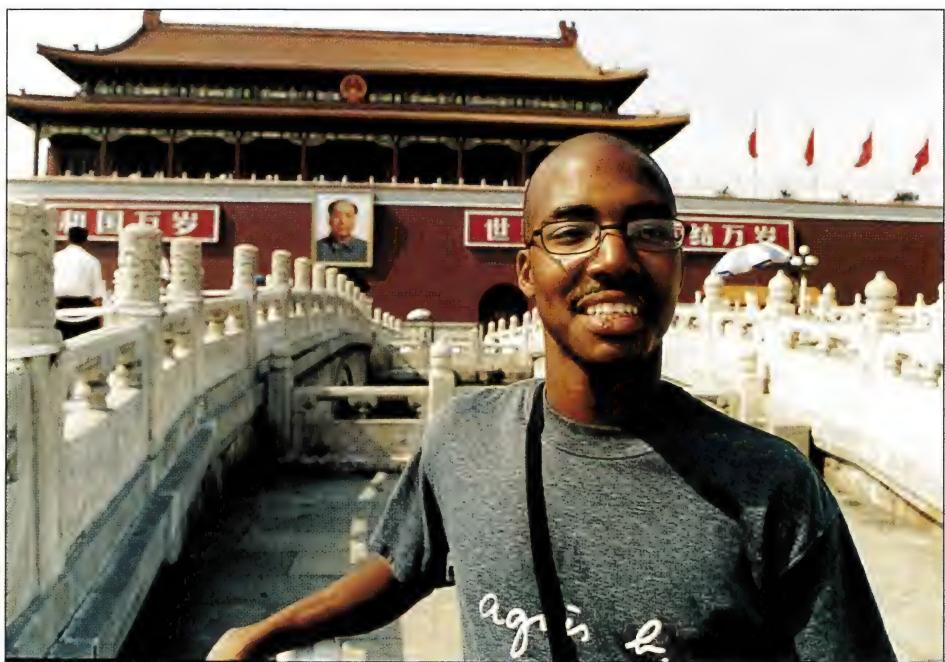
freedom of driving an expensive car without being stopped by the police, the luxury of browsing in exclusive shops without being followed by clerks and the delight of advancing professionally without being tagged an unqualified beneficiary of affirmative action. "It's like an asthmatic taking his first puff from an inhaler," says Charla Weiss, an educational psychologist in Hong Kong. "All your life you've been taking half breaths, and suddenly you realize what it's like to really breathe."

Western professionals, black or white, enter the Asian corporate world as foreigners. There are cultural barriers to deal with, especially for those with no language skills. There also is limited access to influential Asian business circles built on family relationships and clannish affinities. But the Asian business environment is pragmatic. In financial services, information technology, engineering and the sciences, where Western expertise is in demand, any experienced foreigner is as good as the next. There may be even more opportunity in the wake of Asia's economic meltdown, as systematic reforms open regional markets to greater foreign involvement. "It doesn't matter if you're green in most parts of Asia," says Malcolm Robinson, a black Hong Kong-based fund manager, "as long as you have the skills to do the job."

It's an attitude that smashes conventional American wisdom. Incidents of overt racism in East Asia have drawn high-profile press in recent years. There were violent clashes between Chinese and African university students in China in the late 1980s over African exchange students' dating Chinese women. In 1986, the then Japanese prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said in a speech that

CHINA

Damon Woods at the Forbidden City in Tiananmen Square. Friends warned him that the Chinese are racist. He's glad he ignored them. 'Americans need to open their minds,' he says.



DAVID MCINTIRE—BLACK STAR



America's overall intelligence level was pulled down by blacks, Hispanics and Puerto Ricans. American politicians and civil-rights groups protested, urging boycotts of Japanese goods. But blacks living in Asia say that such blatant offenses are rarer in Asia than in the United States.

More commonly, blacks struggle against stereotypes exported through American media: that they can sing and dance or that they are lazy and violent. "There is a big difference between plain ignorance and real hostility," says Carlyle Peake, a debt analyst with Merrill Lynch in Hong Kong. "You get some crazy comments in Asia, but it's not deep and hateful the way it can be in the United States." And the stereotypes are

HONG KONG

New Orleans-born Lori Granito started cooking for parties when she moved to Hong Kong in 1992 with her French husband, a chef. Now the trendy pack her restaurant, The Bayou. The city 'can use a little more soul,' she says.

relatively easy to overcome. When Reginald Canal, 29, came to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp. from New York last summer as a project consultant, co-workers were thrilled at the prospect of beefing up the basketball team. "I didn't know how to break it to them," says Canal, laughing. "I'm like the only guy in America who can't play basketball."

For blacks who make the jump to Asia, there is a growing network of support. Exec-

utives socialize at trendy clubs featuring R&B bands and "Soul Train" nights. Black women's groups welcome newcomers in Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo. Many friendships are struck, members say, with the familiar question from newcomers

to Asian cities: "Girl, who does your hair?" And folks tired of dim sum can eat jambalaya and catfish at Lori Granito's Hong Kong restaurant, The Bayou. "Hong Kong can use a little more soul," says the New Orleans native, who picked Easter Sunday to launch The Bayou's live-music Gospel Brunch.

Looking to Asia for liberation from American racism is not entirely new. The Black Panthers of the 1960s turned to

Maoist ideology for guidance, and Panther leaders like Huey Newton traveled to China to study revolution. Performer Paul Robeson also studied Chinese. His association with the communist movement eventually tarnished his career. In the 1930s black leader and intellectual W.E.B. Du Bois traveled throughout Asia and lectured at Japanese universities. He wrote a series of articles for the black newspaper The Pittsburgh Courier on the warm reception he received. In one article he expressed awe at the freedom he felt when a Japanese hotel clerk waited on him before a white customer demanding immediate service. "It's a complex history that neither blacks nor Asians today are aware of," says historian Reginald Kearney, whose book "African American Views of the Japanese: Solidarity or Sedition" comes out this spring.

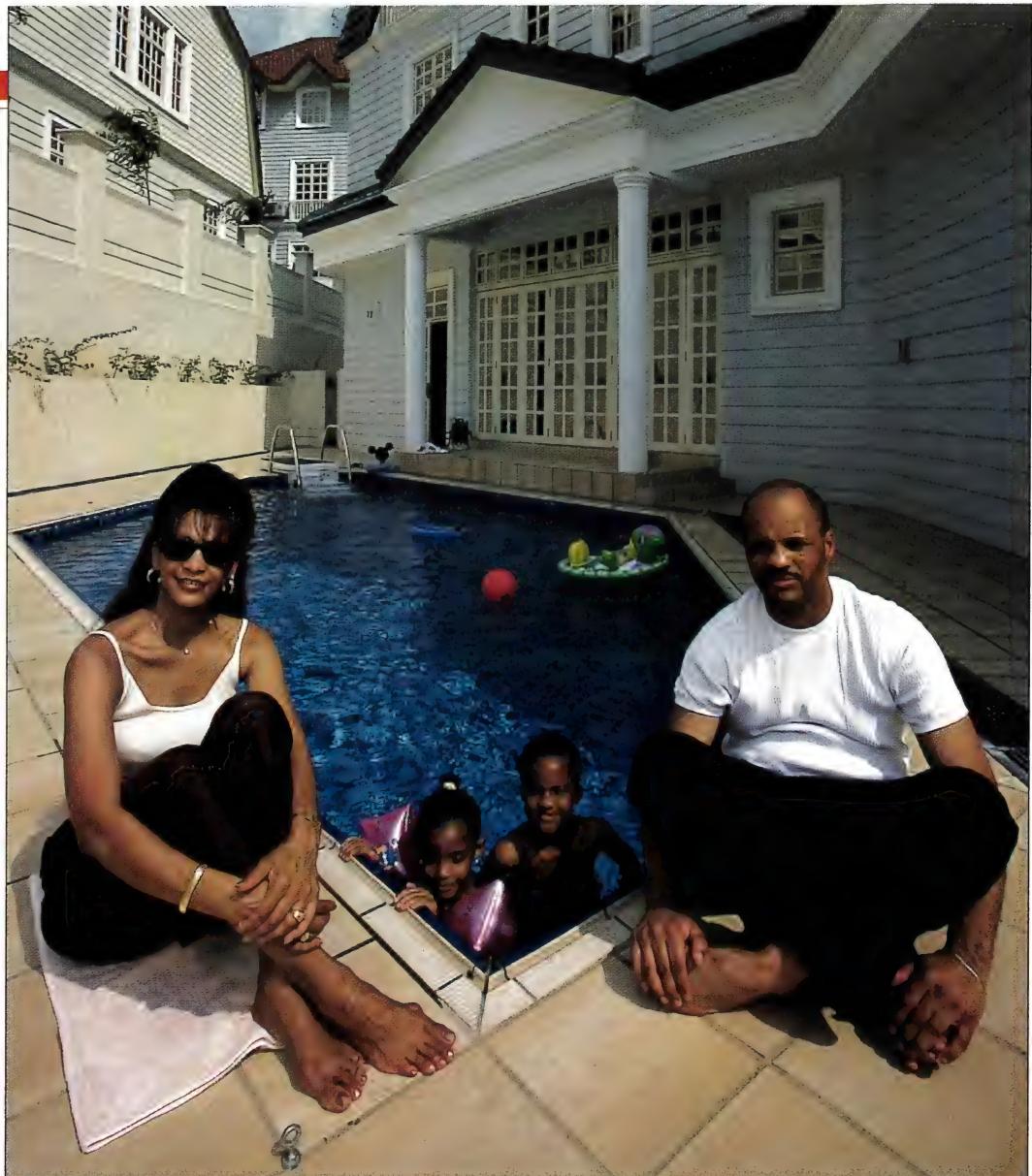
MAYBE NOT SURPRISINGLY, some of the strongest resistance to accepting blacks in Asia has come from American companies. Blacks in corporate America have struggled for years to change the perception that they won't be accepted in Asia. After 10 years as a marketing executive with an American multinational company, Iris Harvey expressed interest in transferring to Tokyo. Her company hedged, so she took a leave of absence and went on her own. She started a consulting firm, developing

business strategies for clients like Mitsubishi and Sumitomo. When the Japan Times ran a profile on Harvey in 1994, the headline read simply: THE AMERICAN JAPANESE CAN SAY YES TO. Now in Atlanta, Harvey has an office in Tokyo and works with U.S. corporations doing business in the Pacific. "In Asia, for the first time, black professionals are able to enjoy the full benefits of their American citizenship."

The experience is even more empowering for younger black professionals who struggle with increasingly hostile attitudes toward affirmative action in the United States. David Andrews moved to Taiwan as a marketing officer with First Chicago Bank in 1995 after completing his M.B.A. He was the only person in the home office interested in the post. At 30, he's now an

executive with ABN AMRO in Hong Kong, selling banking services to multinational companies with headquarters in the region. He hopes his next position will be in China. "There's no question here that I'm qualified and capable," says Andrews. "When I go back [to the United States] nobody will ever be able to tell me again that they had to spot me points because I'm a brother."

Black expats are invading Asia just as black-American pop culture is becoming seriously vogue in the region. High-school kids from Manila to Seoul strut the streets wearing low-slung jeans revealing multi-colored drawers. Life-size cardboard cutouts of NBA stars like Michael Jordan and Shaquille O'Neal tower outside basketball shops in Taipei. In Tokyo's trendy Harajuku district, teenagers flock to the



JONATHAN DRAKE

SINGAPORE

As expatriates, Citibank executive Greg French and his wife, Jan, unwittingly became cultural ambassadors for 'a rich heritage that even many of the Americans here aren't aware of.' Eventually they want to bring their kids home.

Brooklyn Hip-Hop Boutique to buy vinyl dance mixes and Afro-centric club clothes in red, black and green. Around the corner, Japanese stylists at Natty Hair salon labor for hours to mat Japanese tresses into dreadlocks. The styles are far removed from the conservative suits and haircuts sported by most black professionals in Asia, who say their presence helps to balance out the image. "We're like ambassadors," says Terrance Alford, 26, a fund manager in Hong Kong. "In addition to all these cool things Asians see on TV, we let them know that we are bankers, lawyers and business owners, too."

And in an Asia increasingly inundated with shopping malls, McDonald's and other trademarks of mass American culture, black expatriates are transporting unique elements of their own African-American culture. In December, Jan French took homemade sweet-potato pies to daughter Angela's school and gave a talk to her class on Kwanzaa. Says Jan: "It's essential that our children be proud of who they are." She

and her husband, Greg, a marketing executive with Citibank, value the international education their kids are receiving abroad. But as the kids get older, the parents say, it will be important for them to spend some time in the United States to prepare them for racism they may experience there later. It is especially important, they say, for Marcus, 8. "He is a black, American male," says Greg. "And at some point I need to make sure that he understands everything that means. Good and bad. Fair and unfair."

It is a reality check that all African-American

icans experience returning home. And it can hit hard at any age. Jennifer Smith came back to the United States just before Christmas, after a five-year stint in Tokyo as director of the Institute of Foreign Bankers. Browsing an upscale Chinese antique shop on Manhattan's Upper East Side, Smith, 44, was confronted by the Chinese shop owner who questioned what she was doing there. When she explained that she had lived in Asia and was a collector of Asian antiques, Smith says the owner told her, point blank, that she didn't believe her. She left the store

feeling an anger, and a sadness, that she hadn't felt in years. "In all my time in Asia, I never had to face such a purely racial response," says Smith. "That shopkeeper had clearly learned the American way."

The American way is something blacks have been trying to alter for decades. For sure, black expats in Asia won't be bringing back any cure-alls. But they're finding a whole new world of possibilities. "Once the boundaries come down, it's hard for anyone to pull you back in again," says Smith. America can only be the better for it. ■

Land of Opportunity

An African-American professional reveals how he found his future in the Asian financial marketplace

BY EUGENE MATTHEWS

THIRTEEN YEARS AGO, I left a prominent Philadelphia law firm for the first of several jobs in Asia. I became the only foreigner working for a traditional Japanese manufacturing company, complete with uniforms, morning songs and calisthenics. Before I started work, I got some stern advice from Yuhara-san, who had been my "host mother" when I studied for a year at Waseda University in Tokyo. "Be the first one at the office, work harder than everyone else and be the last one to leave," she said. "They will think you are lazy because you are a foreigner." It was not the first time I had heard that advice. My real mother gave me the same lecture, practically word for word, when I took my first paying summer job in a small Pennsylvania steel town more than a decade before. Only instead of preparing me for life as a foreigner in Japan, she was trying to prepare me for life as a black man in America.

At the age of 39, I have spent most of my career in Asia, having worked in Japan, Thailand and Vietnam. I am as comfortable discussing Japanese investments at a sumo match in Tokyo as I am discussing the American mar-



'When I first went to Japan, as a student in 1980, some of my friends thought I would get more useful experience if I went to Europe instead,' says Matthews, who now runs an American investment firm in Tokyo

ket at a Knicks game in New York. My Japanese is fluent, and my contacts are good. It was a Japanese investor who put up the capital for my first trading company (I doubled his money in two years). Race can be an issue in Asia, if you allow it to be. But for me, it has never been a determining factor in a significant business transaction.

No American with an eye on Asia's future should allow worries about race to get in the way. In the next century, international experience, particularly in Asia, will be crucial for anyone who wants to play a major role in American business. I plan to move back to the United States eventually, and I am confident that the track record I built in Asia

will help me to prosper there.

Asia's current financial meltdown has created more opportunity for American investors than ever before. The same fundamentals that stimulated the region's economic growth still exist: a strong work ethic, a disciplined labor force and a propensity for saving. Now governments are being forced to fix some old problems: cronyism, collusion and protectionism. In Japan, undervalued companies are priming a boom in a buyout business that previously was closed to Westerners. Start-ups and young companies offer a market ripe for aggressive, American-style venture capitalists.

This evolving Asia is open to anyone with the skills and *nintai* (Japanese for patience) to go for it. If anything, black American professionals are uniquely equipped to overcome cultural challenges they may face in Asia. We are used to being in the minority. We are used to working a little harder to prove ourselves. We are used to stereotyping and petty slights. When I see a white colleague get angry because a taxi passes him by to pick up a Japanese customer, I can't help but be amused. I'm used to it. But at the end of the day, I also know that my skills are what count most in Japan. Down at the bottom line of a financial statement, race is irrelevant.

MATTHEWS, a graduate of Harvard Law, is president of Nintai Capital Inc., a U.S. firm specializing in private equity investments in Japan.

EUROPE

Here's Why You Need to Care About the Euro

It's not just a new currency for the old continent

BY MICHAEL HIRSH

CHATTING WITH EUROPEANS THESE days can be an awkward affair for Americans. Preoccupied with running a crisis-ridden world, Yanks just can't seem to develop an interest in that grand obsession of their cousins across the Atlantic, European Monetary Union. EMU may be the greatest European project to come along since 1648 (the Peace of Westphalia, if you care).

It will create a quasi-unified economy larger than America's—one potentially worth \$8.6 trillion. And some experts say the euro, the single currency EMU creates, will someday rival the dollar in market power. On top of that, after a long, difficult birth EMU is really happening. Last week the German and French parliaments approved the plan, and by May 3, 11 European nations will be picked as initial members of a giant new entity that we may soon call Euroland.

This is a big deal. Tectonic stuff. Which doesn't explain why even financially savvy Americans tend to nod off when the subject of EMU comes up. Or why they treat it with, let's say, a certain levity. "EMU? You mean Eastern Michigan University?" one Clinton administration official jokes. "Hella basketball team." Chadwick Gore, a U.S. congressional staffer, recalls meeting an Italian parliamentarian recently. "We weren't even talking about economics," he says. "Out of the clear blue he asks, 'What do you guys think of the euro?' We said, 'Well, we're not really that concerned about it.' Gore says his approach is typically American. "Which is: 'Hey, the Europeans are actually doing something on their own ... Maybe now they'll do something on their own about Bosnia'."

You get the picture. Euroland doesn't exactly have the world awestruck. The question is: should Americans care? The answer is: yes, at least more than they do now. Because after the euro formally comes into being on Dec. 31, the United States is not likely to enjoy as much of a

free ride on world markets. If the euro becomes widely used, pressure on the dollar may force up U.S. interest rates, and middle America's mortgage and car-loan rates could rise. "It's not just another currency," says Jill Considine, president of the New

York Clearing House Association. "There's going to be a new competitive landscape." One example: most big-time international business is now done in dollars; in the future, Americans selling public debt or buying oil overseas may be subject to the whims of the currency markets as never before (the dollar's powerful role is one reason America didn't suffer as much as others from the 1970s oil shocks).

Fortunately, these big shifts are expected to happen so slowly and tentatively that few people will notice (sorry, Europe). And truth be told, while Euroland may be a done deal, many of its details remain murky. Europe's governments are presently locked in a nasty row over the identity of the first chairman of the new European Central Bank.

Still, that hasn't stopped a certain preening over the six-year-old project. "EMU," declared Jürgen Stark, a top

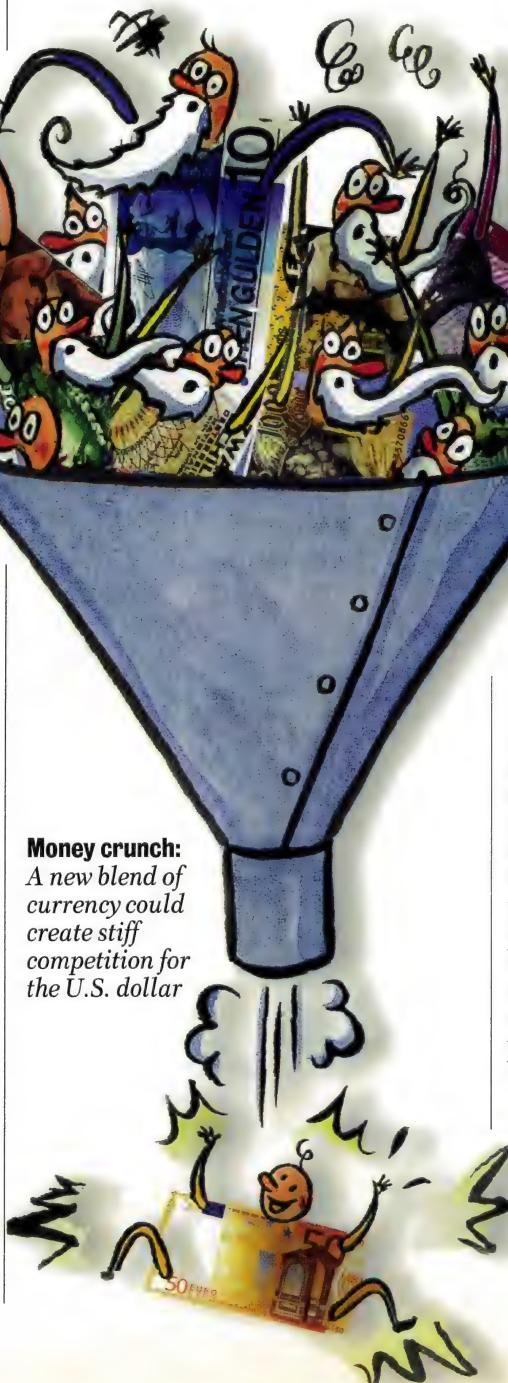
German Finance Ministry official, on a U.S. visit earlier this month, "will have no parallel in history." But that is precisely the problem.

Nothing on the scale of EMU—a hybrid of cross-border monetary policy and national fiscal policy—has ever been tried before. EMU could result in nothing more than a minor boost to the European economies, as the cost of cross-border business comes down; or it could be the essential building block of a United States of Europe. No one knows if monetary union's ultimate impact will be profound or prosaic.

All Americans can do is wait and see. Still, in Washington at least, people are beginning to pay attention. NEWSWEEK has learned that President Clinton received his first full-scale briefing on EMU a month ago, and it included questions about the dollar's future role. U.S. officials say the main threat, however, is EMU's failure, not its success. "The worst case is not that it happens, but that it falls apart, and causes conflict and breakdowns in Europe," says a senior administration official. "If it goes well, I think our general view is that it can be a fairly positive force." Indeed, Euroland could soon be a fabulous playground for America's world-class banks.

At the same time, the euro will serve as a strong competitor to the dollar, which tends to be overvalued because of its wide use overseas. If the dollar starts to lose value post-EMU, those basketball jokes will soon end. ■

Money crunch:
A new blend of currency could create stiff competition for the U.S. dollar



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Can't Russia Join the Club, Too?

If the NATO alliance is about strengthening democracy, the troubled nation should get its own invitation. BY FAREED ZAKARIA

THE EXPANSION OF NATO IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION. The Senate will soon vote overwhelmingly to extend membership in the alliance to Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. But while they're at it, the senators might think about adding one more name to that list—Russia.

This is not nearly as preposterous as it sounds. Having succeeded in its original mission—to deter the Soviet Union—NATO is somewhat lost in this new era. Expansion, the Clinton administration has stressed, is an ongoing policy that could result in many new members. That will further change the essential nature of the alliance, moving it from a tight military camp to a larger crisis-solving and democracy-strengthening organization. In this new context, Russian participation becomes indispensable.

Few alliances survive victory. After having come together to defeat Napoleon, the Quadruple Alliance soon fell apart in the 1820s and 1830s. NATO has done better. It still exists, has a large bureaucracy, conducts military maneuvers and is used by the United States as its preferred military outfit when force is required. But its core function—defending its members from Soviet attack—is dead; as dead as the Soviet Union.

The United States still has many problems dealing with Russia, but they stem from Russian weakness rather than strength. Russia's economy today is slightly more than half the size it was 15 years ago, and has declined for five straight years. Its military is in ruins, with salaries, food and medicine in scarce supply, let alone modern tanks and aircraft.

Additionally, Russia's new borders are farther away from those of NATO members—including the new countries of Central Europe—than they have been for 300 years. Yet NATO has responded to this precipitous decline in Russian power and its diminished imperial intentions by bulking up and getting closer. The administration has given a wink and a nod to the Baltic states, which want to be next in the club. Their membership would almost certainly end any pretense of credible security guarantees: NATO could defend the Baltics by only one means—nuclear attack.

All this is old thinking, we are told by the Clinton administration. The new NATO is meant to deal with the new world. Precisely because there are no longer actual threats to the security of Western Europe and other members, the alliance must deal with those threats that exist—whether in Bosnia or the Middle East—which require a new, expanded alliance. "NATO must go out of area or out of business," says Sen. Richard Lugar. This turns

NATO into a kind of off-the-shelf army that might be used when its members can agree. But as the war in Bosnia bloodily proved, NATO members can't really agree on much. Out of area—in Libya, Iran, Iraq, the peace process, China—the United States and Europe are out of sync.

Hence, when the United States wants to use military force, it will try to get NATO support. If not, it will go alone. And if it gets a few NATO countries and a few non-NATO ones to come along, it will construct a "coalition of the willing." So how exactly is the new, improved NATO helping here? If global problem-solving is NATO's new mission, it can work only with the cooperation of other great powers—principally Russia, which straddles two continents and has the world's second largest nuclear arsenal and a veto in the Security Council. To try to construct an international security system and leave Russia out because it lost the cold war contradicts the most simple rule of strategy for the victorious. Written across the first page of Churchill's magnificent history of World War II is the four-line "moral of the work," which reads: "In War—Resolution; In Defeat—Defiance; In Victory—Magnanimity; In Peace—Goodwill." The last time a losing power was excluded from the new order was Germany in 1918, and things didn't turn out so well.

There is, finally, the moral argument. We are told that the countries of Central Europe

deserve to be recognized as full-fledged members of the West, and their fledgling democracies supported and strengthened. But if one of NATO's new goals is to strengthen democracy, then surely its place lies with the most important democratic experiment taking place on the European continent—in Russia. The Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary are in no real danger of backsliding on democracy. What they need is access to West European markets. Membership in the European Union, not NATO, can alone solve that problem. But the fate of Russian democracy is in the balance, and the outcome will have enormous consequences for the democratic idea everywhere and for peace in Europe. Why not help where help is needed?

As for belonging to "the West," Central Europe has many cultural affinities with Western Europe, but surely they are matched by those of Russia. Which has made a larger contribution to European culture: Hungary or the land of Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Pushkin, Prokofiev, Kandinsky and Shostakovich? Bringing Russia firmly into the West is a goal worthy of the United States—and its Senate. ■



Its core function is as dead as the Soviet Union: President Truman signing the U.S. ratification of the NATO pact in 1949

NEWSMAKERS

Ellen Is Out—Of a Job

YEP, SHE'S BEEN CANCELED. In one of the worst-kept secrets since **Ellen DeGeneres** outed herself, ABC confirmed last week that "Ellen" would not be back in the fall. DeGeneres, the first openly gay sitcom star, had been telling people for weeks that her outspoken show wouldn't live to see its sixth season. But when the official word came, DeGeneres was surprisingly philosophical. "Although I'm disappointed the show was canceled, I look forward to moving beyond the stereotype," she told *Variety*. "Look for me in my new sitcom, 'Two Girls, a Horse and Some Wine Coolers'."

Actually, we haven't seen the last of "Ellen." Reruns of her series, including the two episodes that ABC never aired, will be shown on Lifetime starting in September. And despite critics' contention that the show's gay-oriented humor was too controversial



DeGeneres (right) with her lover, Anne Heche, in London last week

for television, the networks are considering several sitcoms centered on gay characters for next year, including

"Will & Grace"—about a straight woman and her gay male buddy—at NBC. No word on equine costars.

Drama's in Her Genes

I'M A VERY LUCKY GIRL," **China Chow** declared last week. She's right. At 24, with no acting experience, she landed a key role in the action film "The Big Hit," which opened last weekend. Of course, there's drama in her genes: her dad is Michael Chow (proprietor of the chic Mr. Chow's restaurants in London, New York and Beverly Hills) and her mother was Tina Chow, the model who died of AIDS in 1992. In "Hit," Chow plays a college student kidnapped by tenderhearted hit man **Mark Wahlberg**. Chow won't comment on rumors they're a real-life couple. What's next? Something creative, but unless she "falls in love with a script," she might just say *ciao* to acting.



Glamour girl

JEAN SELIGMANN, MARC PEYSER and THEODORE GIDEONSE



Another Simpson's Wild Ride

AFTER LEAVING A BENEFIT FASHION SHOW EARLY FRIDAY morning, **Arnelle Simpson**, O.J.'s daughter, crashed her black Saab into a Beverly Hills apartment building. Cops arrested Arnelle, 30, on suspicion of drunken driving. Through a spokesman, she said she was "disappointed" and "sorry that it happened," but did not indicate that she'd search for the real driver.

Baa, Baa, That's My Baby

HER OWN CONCEPTION wasn't merely immaculate; it wasn't a conception at all. But now **Dolly**, the ewe cloned from an adult sheep's udder cell, has proved she can do what comes naturally. Last week Scottish researchers announced that Dolly had a little lamb, born April 13. Unlike her ma, baby Bonnie has a pa, who impregnated Dolly in the time-honored way. The birth means Dolly hasn't aged prematurely because she was cloned from a 6-year-old animal. That's good news for scientists. Dolly's happy, too.



Mother and daughter

Toxic Employees

That new worker who seems so nice? Beware. He may have a history of filing suits against employers. You could find out—the hard way.

BY LESLIE KAUFMAN

THE WAY HE TOLD HIS STORY, IT was an obvious instance of sexual discrimination. According to Kim Gastineau, he had been fired from his job with Fleet Mortgage Co. in Indianapolis after refusing to have sex with a female colleague who, he said, liked to perch atop his desk in skimpy outfits and tease his crotch with her foot. Last month, however, Gastineau lost his case. Why did the jury find against him? It may have been because the colleague said it was Gastineau who made the advances. But the verdict could have turned on the fact that the court decided to let Fleet's attorneys tell the jury of the plaintiff's history. Gastineau, it turns out, had sued three previous employers.

The male-female dynamic of Gastineau's case is unusual, but his readiness to go to court is not, according to lawyers in the expanding field of employment discrimination. They say a new type of client is increasingly knocking on their doors: the serial suer, someone who threatens legal action in response to every provocation, from a failure to be hired to a lost promotion. Since most of these potential litigants cut quick deals and never file charges with either the courts or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, it's hard to know just how many of them there are. But Gary Mathiason, a partner with Littler Mendelson, a firm that represents management, estimates that in a full third of the hundreds of employment cases they currently handle, the complainant has sued an employer or received a settlement in lieu of a suit at least once before. "There is," he believes, "an underground industry of people who have decided this is the way to make money."

Though plenty of employees have legitimate grievances, lawyers say the recidivists usually have dollar signs in their eyes. Every suit doesn't end with Rocke-

ller riches, of course, but in California, to take one example, sexual-harassment settlements average \$65,000. What's more, many companies don't put up a fight. Going to court costs big bucks and generates bad publicity, so they often prefer to reach a private settlement even when the charges are frivolous.

Sexual harassment is the most common ticket for getting on this legal gravy train, but any one of the many anti-discrimination laws that have been passed in recent years will do. Last year, Elaine Fox, a lawyer with the Chicago-based firm of D'Ancona & Phlaum, defended a pharmaceutical company against a maintenance man who sued for wrongful termination under the Americans With Disabilities Act, claiming that the firm had failed to accommodate his bum knee. In pretrial proceedings, Fox was amazed to learn that the plaintiff had amassed \$100,000 in settlements in the preceding year alone. Her client eventually got the case dismissed, but Fox recently learned that the man had already filed charges against his newest employer. "It's extortion," she says.

Maybe so, but it is perfectly legal and even protected. Chronic complainants know that unless they overreach, their litigation-filled pasts will almost never come out at trial. Courts usually ban such information, fearing that it will unfairly prejudice juries. As a result, defense lawyers are straitjacketed even when they know they are dealing with a professional suit-filer. Mathiason recently defended the head of a large Los Angeles apparel firm against charges of sexual harassment. A background check of his accuser revealed that she had made the same charge against both her previous employers. In addition, she had been keeping a detailed diary of events in the office from her first day on the job, as if she had planned to sue from the start. None of it was admissible in court, so the CEO decided to settle for a



six-figure sum rather than face a long, embarrassing jury trial.

This revolving-door scheme is possible because a terrible track record is often no obstacle to getting a new job. In fact, burned employers often end up helping a litigious ex-employee move on to another company. To protect themselves from suits charging retaliation, they write positive reference letters, focusing on mundane virtues—"Sally was always reliable and polite"—while avoiding the big truth—"Sally is likely to sue you in a matter of months." Walter Olson, author of "The Excuse Factory," a book about litigation running riot in the workplace, laments that "you can no longer get an honest job recommendation, especially if the employee in question is flogging the daylights out of the old employer in court."

Such pests have also taken to using a backdoor route into new jobs: temporary work. Call it the revenge of the downsized, but employers who thought they had freed themselves from discrimination suits when they traded in full-time staff for contract or interim workers are getting a nasty surprise. Elise Bloom's law firm, New York-based Jackson Lewis, is defending three different companies against a man who worked temporary maintenance jobs for each of them in succession. He has charged all three with national-origin discrimination for failing to give him full-time work. Explains Bloom, companies are learning that "just because someone is working as a temp, they don't lose their right to sue."

Defenders of these perennial litigants point out that it is possible to be a repeat victim of discrimination. New York lawyer Jeff Liddle has made his name pursuing employment-discrimination suits in the securities industry. He readily admits that many of his millionaire clients have accused two or three different employers. But Wall Street firms, famously young, male and all white, are lousy places to work for people who don't fit those categories, he argues, which is why repeat litigation can be necessary. A client of his who has charged several of his former firms with age discrimination has found that his litigiousness is finally paying off with something more important than money. Now 47, he is employed at a trading desk where everyone else older than 45 has been fired. To keep his boss on his toes, he works out a time for Liddle to call and makes sure to be across the room from his phone. Whoever picks it up then has to yell in front of everyone, "Hey, your attorney's on the phone." Still, the client is happy where he is for now and has no plans to sue—at least not yet.



DRUGS

Take a Pill And Call Me Tonight

Viagra's debut makes medical history, but it won't help everyone

BY JERRY ADLER

IT'S GOT A GREAT NAME, EVOCATIVE of "vigor" and the immense power of Niagara. The New York Daily News breathlessly reported last week that the pope had approved it (it was actually an informal group of Vatican health officials), but even without a papal imprimatur, Viagra was making medical history as the most successful prescription-drug introduction ever—remarkably enough, for a pill that can't help you live longer, grow hair or lose weight. What it does, of course, is help men achieve and sustain erections, and its appeal was summed up by Bill Devine, a urologist in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, whose office switchboard suffered a meltdown under the heat of incoming calls after the drug went on sale in early April. For the typical middle-aged man suffering from impotence caused by peripheral vascular disease—hardening of the arteries leading to the penis—Devine lays out the alternatives. "You can live with it; never having sex again won't kill you. You can have me implant a device in your scrotum; you can inject a drug into your penis, you can insert a suppository up your urinary

tract—or you can take a pill an hour before sex." Guess which they all choose?

As one measure of their unanimity, doctors wrote 120,000 prescriptions for Viagra in the third week of April. That compares with 5,000 prescriptions in the first month for Fen-phen, the diet drug that everyone wanted last year, until it was discovered to cause heart-valve problems. A typical prescription, says the manufacturer, Pfizer, was for 10 to 15 pills, which sell at retail for about \$10 apiece—making Viagra a product worth \$600 million to almost \$1 billion a year right out of the gate. Sales of highly touted drugs often slow with time, as some patients find they don't work for them and others experience side effects. Even in trials, Viagra worked only about 70 percent of the time. And probably at least some of the "patients" seeking Viagra last week had confused it with an aphrodisiac, which it isn't; it works only in the presence of sexual stimulation.

Moreover, Viagra won't have the market to itself forever; there are at least two other pills and a topical gel now in tests. One of the pills, Zonagen's Vasomax (produced under license by Schering-Plough), has a biochemical mechanism similar to Viagra's and could be ready for sale late this year or next. But the potential market is vast—at least a substantial fraction of the 10 million to 20 million American men who suffer some degree of impotence. This is a horde certain to be augmented by male baby boomers turning 50 at the rate of 5,000 a day over the next decade.

And there's other competition, of a sort: Vaegra, a mail-order vitamin supplement, and Viagro, which was available over the Internet for \$99 from a Brooklyn physician who billed it (in small type) as an "herbal analog of the new popular impotence pill." (Pfizer sued both outfits for trademark infringement.) Viagra itself, although generally in good supply at regular pharmacies, was also being heavily marketed online. The J&D Pharmacy in Warsaw, Mo.—a town of 1,500—sold 10,000 pills in a week to customers who saw its Web advertising and mailed or faxed in prescriptions from as far away as New Zealand. The Viagra craze was calling attention to the bur-

geoning Internet trade in pharmaceuticals, which has worried health officials for some time. You need a license to open a pharmacy, but anyone can put up a Web site and start mailing pills all over the world. A legal over-the-counter drug in one country—or, for that matter, a sugar pill—can be advertised as anything and sold anywhere, to people who may have no idea what they're getting. Mail-order frauds are investigated by the Postal Service, but no one is policing cyberspace. The Internet, said Jeff Stier of the American Council on Science and Health, "is the new medium for the snake-oil salesman."

Equally worrisome to health officials—but more susceptible to regulation—is the practice of physicians' prescribing Viagra and other drugs over the Internet without ever seeing their patients. A Milwaukee urologist who advertised on the Web offered phone consultations and a Viagra prescription for \$50. A story in The Wall Street Journal prompted questions from the state licensing board, and the offer was withdrawn. But no one knew how many others were doing the same thing.

This is a practice Pfizer and most medical authorities strongly discourage. A physician who never sees his patients obviously is in no position to look for side effects. So far Viagra seems not to have many—although often, as was the case with Fen-phen, these show up only after a drug is in widespread use. The bigger danger is that impotence can be a sign of an underlying condition, such as diabetes or hypertension. "Proper diagnosis," says a Pfizer spokeswoman, "involves a physical exam and a complete history, and that must be done in person."

Heading Up

Wall Street was excited by the buzz surrounding Viagra, Pfizer's little blue pill for impotence.



SOURCE: DOW JONES

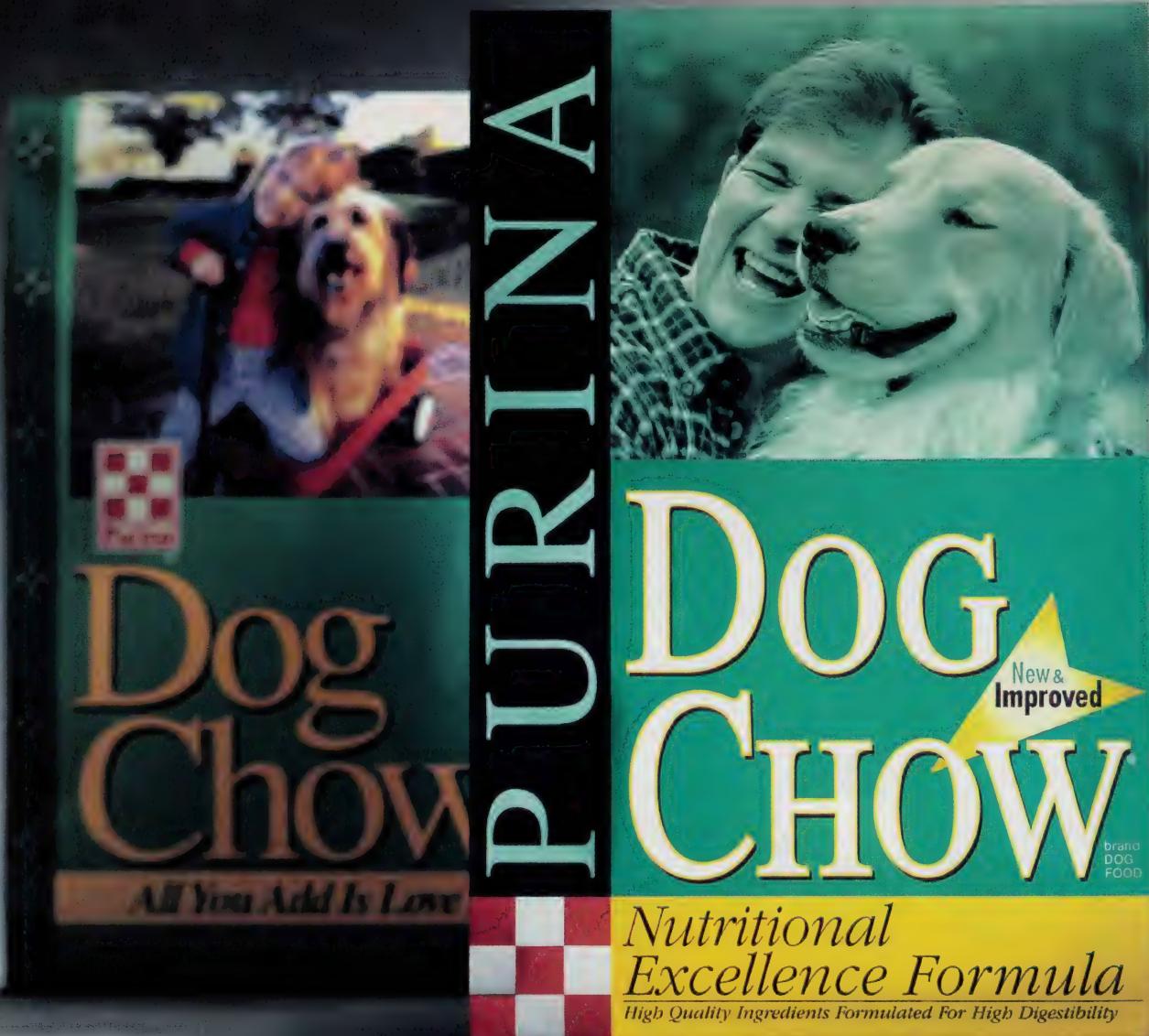
But impotence can also be a symptom of nothing more than growing old, and a pill that can reverse it almost at will could make a huge contribution to the world's happiness. Mike Moran, a La Grange, Ill., urologist, has written 40 prescriptions for Viagra, and asked his patients for feedback; he hasn't heard back from even one. "Usually, when a therapy fails, I hear from patients quickly," he says. "It must be working." Moran's first prescription was for a 77-year-old man he had been treating for several years; the patient requested 1,000 pills, planning to make up for lost time. (He got 30.) If Viagra lives up to even a fraction of those expectations, Pfizer could be reaping profits for years to come.

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Animal Behavior

Misunderstandings Between Pets and Pet Owners

By Bonnie V. Beaver, DVM; Member, American Animal Hospital Association

Pets can feel like part of the family, but like any family member they can sometimes drive us crazy. Teaching even the most adorable puppy or kitten to obey your commands can be frustrating. Unfortunately, problem behavior can drive some pet owners to give up their animals.

Euthanasia is the number-one killer of dogs and cats in the U.S.—responsible for more deaths than all infectious diseases combined. And behavior problems are the number-one reason that animals are turned in to animal shelters. When pets become destructive, aggressive or cause major inconveniences, some owners feel that parting with the animal is the only solution. The good news is that help is available. To keep you from reaching the end of your rope, here are a few things you should know about your animal's behavior.

Behavior Problems

When a dog or cat does something upsetting to an owner, very often the event was just the animal's normal behavior. But the owner may misread

the situation, react inappropriately and worsen the problem.

Consider the following

example. Dogs don't like to go out in heavy rain or snow any more than we do. One morning, an owner gets up and lets his dog outside to urinate. Since his dog does not really want to get wet, he sits by the door waiting to get back inside. He did not eliminate while outside, but his owner does not know this. Later in the morning, when his urge to eliminate is overwhelming, the dog urinates on the kitchen floor.

The owner comes home and assumes the dog eliminated in the house to "get even with" him for not petting him enough or for some other action. The owner then punishes the dog.

Now, after several consecutive days of bad weather, the dog quickly learns to associate

the combined presence of the owner and the smell of urine with punishment. The dog's resulting hesitant behavior around his owner is interpreted as a "guilty" expression instead of a submissive one. This misunderstanding can lead to less interaction between owner and dog and to more negative feelings toward the animal.

In another example, a cat may sharpen his claws on his owner's new sofa because its texture is highly desirable. Because the old sofa was the cat's favorite daytime napping spot, the owner may assume that the cat is "getting even" with him for replacing the sofa. This inaccurate assumption can lead to the cat being punished for merely looking at the new sofa.

Behavior Misunderstandings

In both these situations, there are two major misunderstandings. The first is that an animal would exhibit a particular behavior as revenge for something his owner did. In the dog's case, he was merely expressing normal behavior in response to a particular environmental situation—the bad weather.

Normally the dog knows that the preferred location for elimination is outdoors. But when it was



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CONTRAINDICATIONS: Rimadyl should not be used in dogs exhibiting previous hypersensitivity to carprofen.

PRECAUTIONS: As a class, cyclo-oxygenase inhibitory NSAIDs may be associated with gastrointestinal and renal toxicity. Effects may result from decreased prostaglandin production and inhibition of the enzyme cyclo-oxygenase which is responsible for the formation of prostaglandins from arachidonic acid. When NSAIDs inhibit prostaglandins that cause inflammation they may also inhibit those prostaglandins which maintain normal homeostatic function. These anti-prostaglandin effects may result in clinically significant disease in patients with underlying or pre-existing disease more often than in healthy patients. NSAID therapy could unmask occult disease which has previously been undiagnosed due to the absence of apparent clinical signs. Patients with underlying renal disease for example, may experience exacerbation or decompensation of their renal disease while on NSAID therapy.

Carprofen is an NSAID, and as with others in that class, side effects may occur with its use. The most frequently reported effects have been gastrointestinal signs. Events involving suspected renal, hematologic, neurologic, dermatologic, and hepatic effects have also been reported. Patients at greatest risk for renal toxicity are those that are dehydrated, on concomitant diuretic therapy, or those with renal, cardiovascular, and/or hepatic dysfunction. Since many NSAIDs possess the potential to induce gastrointestinal ulceration, concomitant use of Rimadyl with other anti-inflammatory drugs, such as corticosteroids and NSAIDs, should be avoided or very closely monitored. Sensitivity to drug-associated adverse events varies with the individual patient. For example, Rimadyl treatment was not associated with renal toxicity or gastrointestinal ulceration in well-controlled safety studies of up to ten times the dose in dogs.

Since a significant number of patients receiving Rimadyl are older dogs, it is advisable to conduct a geriatric examination and to consider appropriate laboratory tests to establish hematological and serum biochemical baseline data prior to administration of any NSAID. Periodic monitoring may be appropriate in certain patients. Owners should be advised to watch for signs of drug intolerance, such as inappetence, vomiting, diarrhea, melena, PU/PD, anemia, jaundice, lethargy, ataxia, seizure, or behavioral changes. (See Adverse Reactions section.) Recognition of possible drug-related clinical signs accompanied by withdrawal of the drug, and supportive therapy if appropriate, has resulted in recovery of the vast majority of patients. The side effects of this drug class, in rare situations, may be serious and if corrective action is not taken may result in hospitalization and even fatal outcomes.

Rimadyl is not recommended for use in dogs with bleeding disorders (e.g., Von Willebrand's disease), as safety has not been established in dogs with these disorders. The safe use of Rimadyl in pregnant dogs, dogs used for breeding purposes, or in lactating bitches has not been established. Studies to determine the activity of Rimadyl when administered concomitantly with other protein-bound drugs have not been conducted. Drug compatibility should be monitored closely in patients requiring additional therapy.

WARNINGS: Keep out of reach of children. Not for human use. Consult a physician in cases of accidental ingestion by humans. For use in dogs only. Do not use in cats.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: During investigational studies, no clinically significant adverse reactions were reported. Some clinical signs were observed during field studies (n=297) which were similar for carprofen- and placebo-treated dogs. Incidences of the following were observed in both groups: vomiting (4%), diarrhea (4%), changes in appetite (3%), lethargy (1.4%), behavioral changes (1%), and constipation (0.3%). The product vehicle served as control. The following occasionally occurring adverse drug reactions have been reported in association with the clinical use of Rimadyl:

Gastrointestinal: Vomiting, diarrhea, inappetence, melena, hematemesis, gastrointestinal ulceration.

Behavioral: Sedation, lethargy, hyperactivity, restlessness, aggressiveness.

Hepatic: Inappetence, vomiting, jaundice, acute hepatic toxicity, hepatic enzyme elevation, abnormal liver function test(s), hyperbilirubinemia, hyperbilirubinemia, hypoalbuminemia. Approximately one-third of hepatic reports were in Labrador Retrievers.

Renal: Hematuria, polyuria, polydipsia, urinary incontinence, urinary tract infection, azotemia, acute renal failure, tubular abnormalities including acute tubular necrosis, renal tubular acidosis, glucosuria.

Neurologic: Ataxia, paresis, paralysis, seizures, vestibular signs.

Hematologic: Immune-mediated hemolytic anemia, immune-mediated thrombocytopenia, blood loss anemia.

Dermatologic: Pruritis, increased shedding, alopecia, pyotraumatic moist dermatitis (hot spots), necrotizing panniculitis/vasculitis, ventral ecchymosis.

Immunologic or hypersensitivity: Facial swelling, hives, erythema.

To report suspected adverse reaction call 1-800-366-5288.

STORAGE: Store at controlled room temperature 15°–30°C (59°–86°F).

HOW SUPPLIED: Rimadyl caplets are scored and contain 25 mg, 75 mg, or 100 mg of carprofen per caplet. Each caplet size is packaged in bottles containing 100 or 250 caplets.

To obtain technical assistance, call 1-800-366-5288.

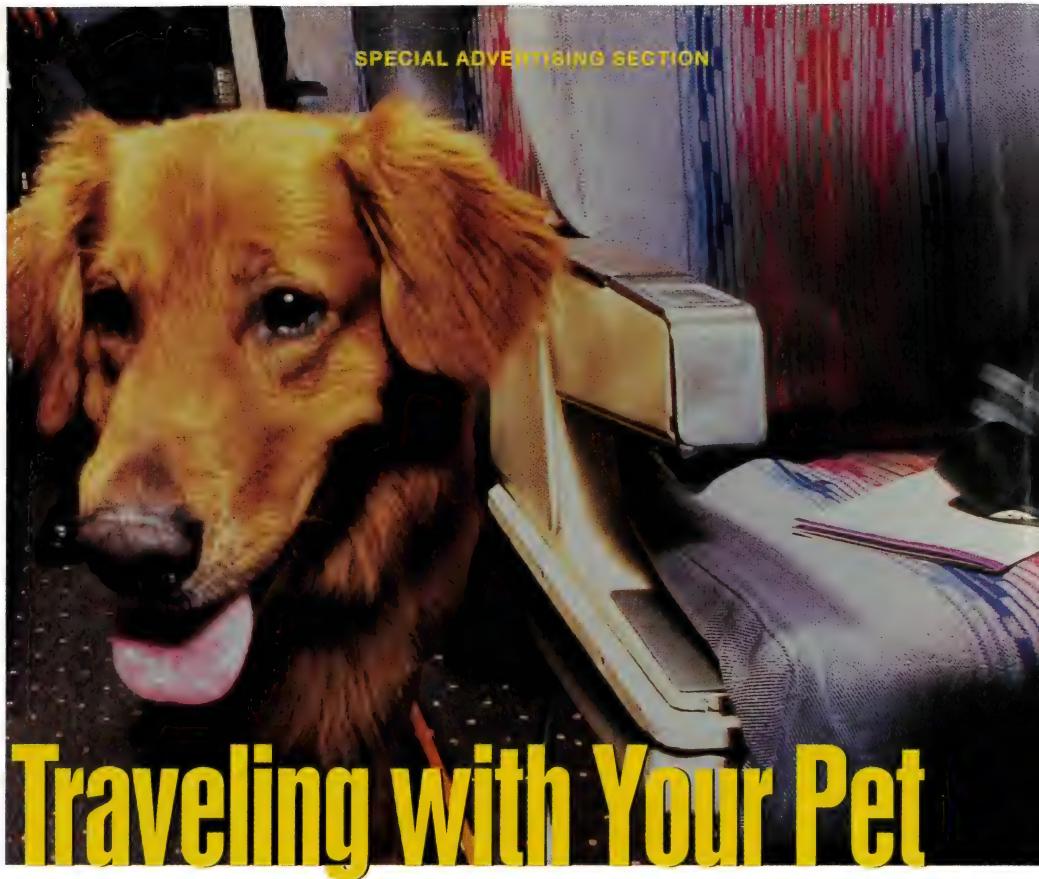
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SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION



By Cathy M. Rosenthal, American Humane Association

Nowadays, people aren't willing to leave their pets at home when they travel. According to a Gallup poll, 34% of dog owners and 11% of cat owners say they take their vacations with their pets. With a little planning, you can too.

Before you decide to take your pet on the road, be sure he does not get car sick. Try short trips around the block to accustom your pet to the sensation of riding, then gradually increase the distance.

Once you know your pet is comfortable riding in a car, begin packing for the long trip. Your pet will need toiletries (medications, scooper, paper towels, sandwich bags for dog waste removal, and disposable litter pan for cats), necessities (leash, bedding, water and food dishes, food, a jug of water, and vaccination records), and entertainment (toys and chewies).

When in the car, secure your pet in a carrier or a seat belt made especially for pets. Even in a minor accident, an unsecured animal can be severely injured or killed. Always attach your pet's leash before opening the car door or window because, no matter how well trained, he could get excited in new surroundings and run away. You should also add a

second ID tag to your pet's collar during the trip that has your beeper number, cellular phone

number or a friend's phone number in case your pet gets lost.

Making Flying Friendly

Flying with your pet requires a few more considerations. Obviously, you cannot tell how your pet will react to flying without actually taking him on a flight. If you have a nervous pet, it might be best to leave him at home with a reliable pet sitter or boarding kennel.

Tranquillizers are not recommended, as they affect an animal's ability to adjust to the movements of the plane and can interfere with his ability to breathe. Tranquillizers can be particularly unsafe for the snub-nosed breeds like Persian cats and Pug dogs.

If you decide to fly your pet, be aware of the many requirements. In general, pets must be examined by a veterinarian no more than ten days prior to the date of travel. They must also have current health and rabies vaccination certificates at the time of departure.

Many airlines limit the number of animals they will transport per flight. Therefore, you should make reservations as early as possible regardless of whether

your pet will be flying in the cargo hold or under your seat (if he is small enough).

Whenever possible, arrange for direct flights. Connecting flights expose animals to noisy tarmacs and unpredictable weather. Some airlines will not transport animals if the temperature at the landing site is below or above a certain range.

Overall, keep in mind that pets need the same amount of love, care and attention on the road or in the air as they get at home.

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Cold Noses & Clammy Paws

Pet First Aid You Should Know

The following are some common pet first-aid treatments recommended by AAHA. Always call your veterinarian at the first sign of trouble.

Bite Wounds

Approach the pet carefully to avoid getting bitten. Muzzle the animal, then clean the wound with large amounts of water. Wrap large open wounds to keep them clean. Apply pressure to profusely bleeding wounds. Do not use tourniquets. Bite wounds often become infected and need professional care. Wear gloves when possible.

Bleeding

Apply firm, direct pressure over the bleeding area until the bleeding stops. Hold the pressure for at least ten minutes (continually releasing the pressure to check the wound will hamper the clotting). Avoid bandages that cut off circulation.

Breathing Stops

Check to see if the animal is choking on a foreign object (see Choking). If an animal is not breathing, place him on a firm surface with his left side up. Check for a heartbeat by listening at the area where the elbow touches the chest. If you find a heartbeat but no breathing, close the animal's mouth and breathe directly into his nose—not mouth—until the chest expands. Repeat 12–15 times per minute. At the same time, if there is no pulse, apply heart

Pets

massage. The heart is located in the lower half of the chest, behind the elbow of the front left leg. Place one hand below the heart to support the chest. Place other hand over the heart and compress gently. For cats and tiny pets, give heart massage by compressing the chest with the thumb and forefingers of one hand. Apply heart massage 70–90 times per minute and alternate with breathing.

Diarrhea

Withhold food for 12–24 hours but not water. Give ice cubes only.



natural disasters and strengthen anti-cruelty laws.

AHA founded Be Kind to Animals Week over 80 years ago to celebrate the joy animals bring to us and to help us remember our responsibilities to them. Call your local animal shelter for details on how you can join in local celebrations during this special week and throughout the year. And, tune in to the special programming on the Animal Planet television channel during Be Kind to Animals Week, May 3–9, 1998. For more information about Be Kind to Animals Week, visit our Web site at www.americanhumane.org.

For a free copy of AHA's magazine, ADVOCATE, contact AHA at 63 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112 or call (303) 792-9900.

Vomiting

Withhold food for 12–24 hours. Give ice cubes for two hours after vomiting stops, then slowly increase the amount of water and food given over a 24-hour period.

Choking

(difficulty breathing, excessive pawing at mouth, blue lips and tongue)

Look into the mouth to see if foreign object in throat is visible. Clear the airway by removing the object with pliers or tweezers, being careful not to push it farther down the throat. If the object remains lodged, place your hands on both sides of the animal's rib cage and apply firm, quick pressure. Or place the animal on his side and strike the side of his rib cage firmly with the palm of your hand three or four times. Repeat this procedure until the object is dislodged.

Heat Stroke

(rapid or difficult breathing, vomiting, high temperature, collapse)

Place animal in a tub and run cool water over him. Or, gently soak him with a garden hose or wrap in a cool, wet towel. Do not overcool the animal. Stop cooling when rectal temperature reaches 103 degrees Fahrenheit.

Poisoning

Record what the pet ingested and how much. Immediately call your veterinarian or poison control center. Do not induce vomiting. In case of poisoning on the skin, wash the area with mild soap and rinse well.

American Humane Association

The American Humane Association (AHA) is dedicated to preventing cruelty toward animals. Founded in 1877 as the first national animal protection organization in the country, AHA today helps all animals, and especially animal shelters across the U.S. through programs to curb pet overpopulation, assist animals in



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Now, It's Spring Fever In the Skies

Airline mergers: better service at what cost?

BY MICHAEL MEYER

WHAT IS IT ABOUT SPRING AND THE urge to merge? Last month the seasonal frenzy swept the banking business. Now it's shaking up the airline industry. On Thursday American Airlines and US Airways, the nation's third and fourth largest airlines, announced an alliance to pool their frequent-flier programs—giving customers added incentives to fly one another's skies. Then on Friday, the biggest carriers of all, Delta and United, delivered word of a sort-of-but-not-quite coupling. Yes, the two had been seriously courting. But no, contrary to news reports, they would actually not consummate what some industry analysts had breathlessly described as their imminent "virtual merger."

Delta and United may yet come together. "We still hope that we can resolve the issues preventing us from reaching an agreement," said Delta spokesman Bill Berry. But either way, last week's deals, real or rumored, thrust the much-scrutinized airline industry even more into the public spotlight. Airline profits are at record highs. Business fares are climbing into the stratosphere, up 16 percent last year alone. Now comes the wave of consolidation sweeping the industry. (Continental and Northwest, the country's fifth and sixth biggest carriers, allied in January.) The question is whether these deals will mean more choice and more convenience for consumers, as the airlines argue, or less competition and even higher prices. There are no easy answers, says Jeffrey Shane, a former assistant secretary of Transportation and an airline attorney in Washington. "Congress and regulators will jump on this."

Clearly, consumers can benefit from these tie-ups, as the airlines claim. Passengers flying American or US Airways, for in-

EDDY PALUMBO—AP

Desperately seeking 'seamless service': US Airways terminal in Philadelphia

stance, can now use either carrier's network of 72 worldwide clubs and lounges. They can combine their frequent-flier awards, allowing them not only to build up redeemable miles more quickly but also cash them in to more destinations. American can plug into US Airways' deeper web of connections up and down the Eastern Seaboard; US Airways, with few routes to South America, the Caribbean and Europe, will be able to offer a greater array of international flights. In time, American and US Airways hope to create the more ambitious partnership sought (and dropped) by United and Delta—a so-called code-sharing agreement that would allow the two carriers to coordinate flight schedules without entering a full-fledged merger. The goal is what industry types call "seamless service"—frequent flights, easy connections, greater choices of flying times and destinations—without having to change airlines.

Price is the wild card in these alliances. Consumer groups worry that they will reduce competition, translating in turn into higher fares. They could be right. Given the rapid trend toward consolidation, increasingly in the guise of code-sharing, many analysts foresee a day when most major "hub" airports will be dominated by a single airline or consortium. A report last year by the General Accounting Office found that ticket prices, in such cases, ranged from 45 to 85 percent higher than at cities where two or more carriers competed. And just last week the Transportation Department announced it was investigating allegations of price-gouging by the major airlines—aimed at keeping smaller discount-carriers from intruding on their turf—and the Justice Department has begun similar probes. The message? Airlines may yearn to merge—but winning approval from skeptical authorities might be tougher than they expect. ■

TRADE

China Slams the Door on the Avon Lady

FLAGS AND SIGNS STILL decorate the hall in central Beijing. AMWAY WARMLY WELCOMES YOU! says one. But tonight, there's no meeting. "Haven't you heard?" asks a woman. "It's stopped."

They've been teaching American consumerism one lipstick at a time: hundreds of thousands of Amway, Avon and Mary Kay missionaries. Since 1990, American direct-marketing giants have found a steady supply of recruits in

China and earned big profits. Now, fearful of "pyramid schemes," the Chinese government has banned door-to-door selling.

China's leaders and press have criticized direct selling for fostering "excessive hugging" and "weird cults." The

ban also betrays fears—not unfounded—of widespread turmoil. Last year one herbal-medicine scheme lured 2,300 peasants, at \$170 each, then collapsed in 10 days.

The ban may not be the last word. U.S. firms stand to lose \$2 billion in sales; they are lobbying Washington to pressure China into lifting the ban. And in Beijing, some Amway distributors have refused to cash in their supplies. "We're still allowed to sell to our friends," said one man. "Why shouldn't we?" That's a question only Beijing can answer.

Selling in Guangzhou market



IAN BERRY—MAGNUM

The Datelining of TV

ABC and CBS used to scorn NBC's upstart news magazine. They still do—except when they want to copy it.

BY RICHARD TURNER AND
MARK HOSENBALL

FIVE YEARS AGO, YOUR typical couch potato's image of the TV show "Dateline NBC" might have been something about a flaming GM pickup truck (and later, flaming guys in suits, since the blow-up turned out to be rigged and careers imploded). So there is some irony in the fact that "Dateline" is now the news magazine that everyone wants to emulate. Not in content, maybe: we're not talking "60 Minutes" here. "Dateline" is more a well-packaged world of Princess Di and consumer alerts, of floods and tornadoes, of smiling anchors and trademark features like "Picture of the Week" and "Dateline Timeline." And, despite the exhausting pace, the show also has produced several award-winning pieces.

But the executives who once sneered at "Dateline" also happen to work for people who subscribe to the '90s corporate-media mantra of "branding." Now established four nights a week on NBC, probably expanding to five in the fall, "Dateline" thrives because each show promotes every other show under one recognizable banner. It's cheaper than a sitcom, and after five years you don't have to pay \$13 million an episode to keep it on the reservation, as NBC had to do with "ER." And the ratings are often in the top 20.

Call it "Dateline" Envy, as one rival executive did last week. It's a condition that causes network executives, in these frantic few weeks before their fall lineups are finalized, to feel an uncontrollable urge to wallpaper vast swaths of their fall schedule with this stuff. News magazines have been proliferating every year, but finally they're being "stripped"—TV jargon for scheduling a show five times a week. It used to refer mostly to reruns and game shows aired by local stations, usually around dinner time.



Walters: Can her show go to four or five nights a week?



Sawyer: Can the 'PrimeTime Live' anchor count on '20/20'?

ABC's Roone Arledge:
“There are positive things ... But I don’t want to dilute the quality. I’m not interested in dumbing things down.”

Now stripping has gone prime time: ABC has a plan to do it this fall, and CBS wants to do it, too. But both are worried their news reputations will suffer, and both face diplomacy problems that would make George Mitchell and Kofi Annan blanch.

ABC's interest quickened about a year ago, when Disney chairman Michael Eisner took a look at last season's proposed entertainment schedule, and found it wanting. Why pay for 13 episodes of an expensive, hard-to-promote hourlong drama no one had ever heard of and that would probably fail? He asked for an extra episode of "20/20" on Monday nights. After initial panic (and pay raises for some), the news division produced it, and though the show's ratings are down slightly from last year, they're still far better than what most entertainment shows get.

Then 45-year-old new president of news, David Westin, began asserting himself in preparation for chairman Roone Arledge's anticipated departure within the next few months. He started pushing a plan to put all ABC news magazines under a single logo—"20/20" was the focus-group favorite—and air it four times a week, maybe five times after football season. One scenario has Barbara Walters and Hugh Downs on one night, Diane Sawyer and Sam Donaldson on another, some combination of Connie Chung and perhaps Forrest Sawyer or Charles Gibson on a third.

In meeting after meeting the past few weeks, executives have tried to figure out how to implement this. This wasn't "Dateline," with Jane Pauley and

Stone Phillips intro-ing segments night after night and with the entire news division organized to devote resources to it. Arledge had built a star system at ABC, with people like Barbara Walters and Diane Sawyer and Ted Koppel and Sam Donaldson operating from separate, competing fiefdoms. Moreover, the shows have wildly different cultures. "20/20" does long-planned features, often about lifestyle and celebrity issues; "PrimeTime Live" is built for hidden cameras and crashing breaking stories. There is talk inside ABC that Arledge and Westin are at loggerheads over the plan and that



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Walters opposes it. But executives who will go on the record, such as Westin and Arledge, emphatically deny any discord. "There are no factions here," says Arledge.

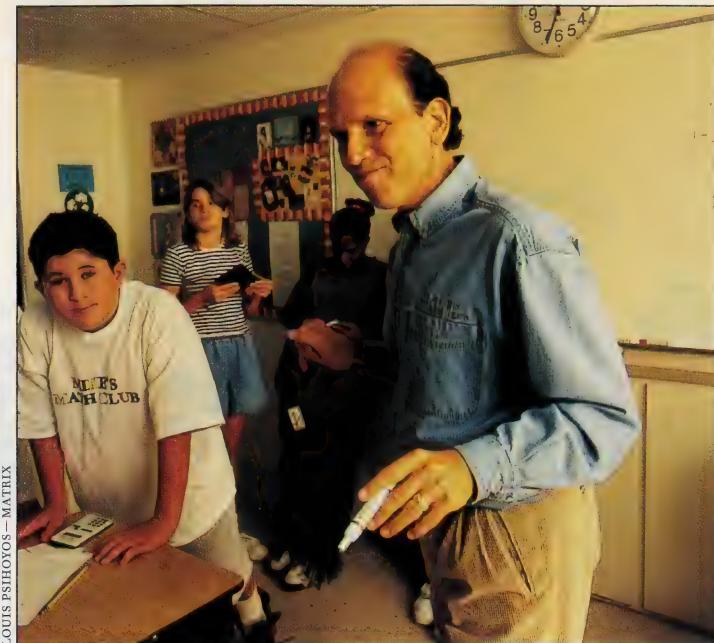
But they do acknowledge certain delicacies. "We want to preserve the distinction of our well-known anchors and correspondents," says Westin. Adds Arledge: "The content [of 'Dateline'] we do not wish to emulate. There are some positive things like branding and promotion and things like that. In principle I'm in favor of it ... but I don't want to dilute the quality. I'm not interested in dumbing things down."

Neither are the people at "60 Minutes." CBS-TV president Leslie Moonves has expressed interest in getting "60 Minutes" to go forth and multiply onto other nights, and news chief Andrew Heyward, who now works for him, isn't disagreeing. "It's a discussion," says Heyward, "and there are good arguments on both sides." But Don Hewitt, the show's feisty 75-year-old executive producer, doesn't want "60 Minutes" to dilute its franchise, or have to start acting like "an entertainment program. No matter what they call it, 'Dateline,' 'PrimeTime Live,' whatever, it's with one goal in mind—to be able to get a story to promote to take viewers away from a sitcom." Hewitt does leave himself a bit of wiggle room: "I can say we don't want to do it, but I work here. I'm not sure I'm not going to be ordered to do it over our dead bodies." (And Hewitt is said to be positively dovish about the idea compared with some of the correspondents.)

So the cloning of "60 Minutes" may be a stretch. But CBS has to do something. Bryant Gumbel's "Public Eye" is struggling. And Moonves was so anxious to compete with the other networks' magazines that last month he commissioned a former "60 Minutes" producer to draw up a plan for a new news show, "Zine," to be developed by the entertainment division. Heyward, say people close to the situation, wasn't pleased, and Moonves quietly dropped the plan.

Meanwhile, Hewitt wants nothing to do with this year's model of what he started 30 years ago. He says the current ardor for TV magazines is—news flash—not about high journalistic ideals. "Tomorrow, if NBC found five 'Seinfelds,' you think 'Dateline' would be on five times a week? But if CBS found five Lucille Balls, we'd still be on. In fact," he adds, "we were on."

NEWSWEEK'S Mark Hosenball once worked at "Dateline NBC."



LOUIS PASTOREK—MATRIX

DEALS

Making Book

Why Michael Milken wants to buy Simon & Schuster

By JOLIE SOLOMON

TALK ABOUT AN EDITOR'S NIGHTMARE. The publishing world was already on edge about the shakeout in the industry and big corporations stalking literary prey. Then came news of the latest invader: Michael Milken.

The former junk-bond king and convicted felon is on a short list of bidders for Simon & Schuster, the prestigious publisher of books such as "Angela's Ashes." In an auction that could wind up this month, Viacom Inc., which owns MTV and Blockbuster Video, is expected to sell most or all of the publishing company for as much as \$5 billion. Top bidders include Pearson PLC, owner of Penguin Putnam, KKR's Primedia, which owns New York Magazine and Channel One, and Milken's two-year-old company, Knowledge Universe LLC.

Founded by Milken and Oracle Corp. chief Larry Ellison, Knowledge Universe is a secretive private company based in the Silicon Valley. It's just the kind to stoke editors' fears. But KU may turn out to be a benign—if not downright attractive—suitor.

KU's business—educational and training products—sounds pretty dry. And its mission, "to improve human capital ... from cradle to post-retirement," as president Thomas Kalinske describes it, sounds like

Mike's Math Club: Milken teaching city kids in L.A.

sanctimonious corporate jargon. But school enrollments are exploding, and interest in the education of both children and adults is at a new high. Milken, who has a passion on the topic, has predicted that this market will grow as quickly as health care. And even Milken's critics consider him one of the smartest prognosticators in business.

Indeed, Simon & Schuster is a hot property not because of its consumer-book division but because it's the nation's biggest publisher of educational books and curriculum software, under such imprints as Prentice Hall. It has also led the publishing industry in high-tech areas such as digital archives and "distance learning" and in computerizing its own back-office operations. Result: the company could sell at twice its 1997 revenues of \$2.5 billion, compared with Random House, which just sold for one times revenues. Viacom has said repeatedly that it would sell only the educational units of Simon & Schuster. But industry sources say that KU is interested in both the education

and the consumer divisions and that Viacom has not ruled out selling both.

Knowledge Universe was launched with about \$500 million in capital and had sales of more than \$1 billion in 1997. The Burlingame, Calif., company has been on a buying spree, investing in or buying a fistful of companies. The most familiar brand names are probably Child Discovery Centers, an operator of child-care facilities and private schools, and LeapFrog, an educational toy company known for its phonics products. But KU has moved even more aggressively into the technology training area. Between Milken, Ellison and Kalinske, a past president of Mattel and Sega, the company has entree to people with big budgets.

Milken also has some credibility among educators. He's been involved in education-related charities since the early 1980s; last year's donations were about \$10 million. Knowledge Universe, promises president Kalinske, will be more dedicated to education—and patient about profits—than companies such as Disney or Time Warner. But it's clear that Milken wants KU to be a big player and that buying Simon & Schuster would be a quick way to expand his reach. He has tough competition in this contest. But making deals is something that Mike Milken knows how to do. ■

THE BANKING REVOLUTION

The titans of finance have become bigger and, paradoxically, also much less powerful

BY ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

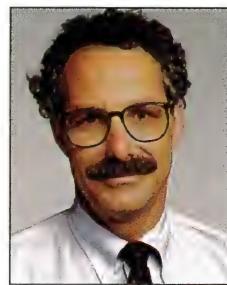
THE BANKING REVOLUTION IN AMERICA IS AS MUCH about attitudes and assumptions as about size and structure. For centuries, Americans have distrusted banks. In the 1830s, Andrew Jackson denounced and destroyed the Second Bank of the United States, which existed "to make the rich richer" at the expense of "farmers, mechanics and laborers." In the 1930s, banks were blamed for helping cause the Depression. The wonder, then, is that the latest wave of bank mergers—the largest ever—has inspired little more than a bewildered and, perhaps, irritated shrug from the public.

We've had mild grumbling about ATM fees but no outcry about dangerous financial power: precisely what would have happened a few decades ago. For the proposed marriages are huge. A combined Citicorp and Travelers would have assets of \$700 billion; NationsBank and BankAmerica would total about \$525 billion, and Banc One/First Chicago NBD would have assets of about \$230 billion. Yet, federal agencies will probably approve all three. And the Citicorp proposal—which would unite a bank and insurance company—may prompt Congress to repeal the Glass-Steagall Act that now prevents a company from owning both.

As banks grow bigger, they seem less fearsome. Why? The answer is that banks have shrunk in power even as they have expanded in size. Traditionally, banking has been a simple business. Deposits come through one door; loans go out through another. Profits derive from the "spread" between interest rates on deposits and loans (minus, of course, overhead costs). If savers and borrowers cannot go elsewhere, banks are powerful. If there are other choices, banks are less powerful. And so it is.

Consider this indicator of banks' eroded power: between 1990 and 1997, there were an estimated 14 billion credit-card solicitations; that's about 50 for every American. Banks (and others) are fighting to get people to borrow from them. Nor is there a scarcity of places for people to plant their money. Customers can write checks on money-market funds; stock-market mutual funds have exploded from 288 in 1980 to 2,626 in 1996. Similarly, big companies can raise or invest funds in many ways: buying or selling commercial paper in the open market, borrowing from nonbank lenders like General Electric.

"We inhabit an age of superabundant credit and its purveyors," writes Ron Chernow in his superb "The Death of the Banker." A century ago, as Chernow shows, matters were different. Small depositors could choose from only one or several local banks; getting a loan meant winning the good graces of the neighborhood banker. Even big corporations depended on a few big banks or investment houses. Back then, the two were often combined. (A commercial bank makes loans and takes deposits; an investment bank raises capital by selling a company's stocks or bonds.)



John Reed or Hugh McColl—the heads of Citicorp and NationsBank—are not household names. In 1900, J. P. Morgan was. He was "a fierce, swaggering buccaneer," writes Chernow. As head of J. P. Morgan & Co., he controlled—through stock and positions on corporate boards—a third of U.S. railroads and 70 percent of the steel industry. A railroad executive once cheerfully confessed his dependence on Morgan's capital: "If Mr. Morgan were to order me tomorrow to China or Siberia ... I would go."

No banker today inspires such awe or fear. Time, technology and government restrictions weakened bank power. In the 1920s, auto companies popularized car loans. National credit cards originated in 1950 with the Diners Club card. In 1933, the Glass-Steagall Act required banks and their investment houses to split. After World War II, pensions and the stock market competed for consumer savings. As a result, banks command a shrinking share of the nation's wealth: 20 percent of assets of financial institutions in 1997, down from 50 percent in 1950. (Included in the tally are banks, insurance companies, mutual funds, pensions and other financial intermediaries.)

As for the present merger wave, it's being driven by three forces. The first is the dismantling of government restrictions intended to check bank power. Congress barred national banks from branching across state lines; many states (Texas and Illinois, for example) barred within-state branching. The idea was to frustrate any single bank from dominating a state. In 1994, Congress permitted interstate branching; before that, many states had repealed their restrictions. This unleashed hundreds of mergers that otherwise would have occurred years ago. In 1984, there were 14,483 banks; by the year-end 1997, there were 9,166.

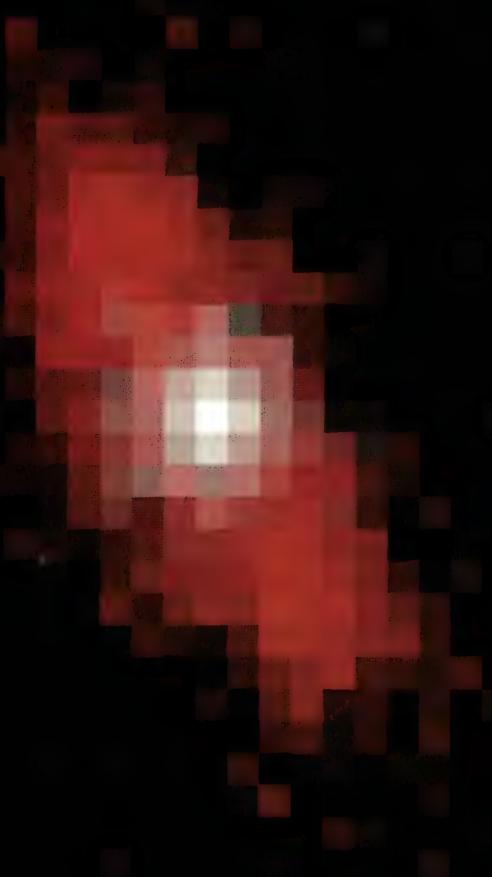
The second force is the prospect of cost savings. BankAmerica and NationsBank project \$2 billion in annual savings from their merger. Some overlapping departments would vanish; perhaps 5,000 to 8,000 jobs out of 180,000 would be cut. Combining some computer systems would also lower costs. In the past, studies have disputed that bank mergers produce efficiencies. But a new study by economists Charles Calomiris of Columbia University and Jason Karczeski of the University of Florida finds savings. "Some bank managers are just better than others," says Calomiris.

What ultimately propels these mergers, though, is a change in perceptions. The old Balkanized system of finance (where banks, brokers, insurers all had distinct identities) corresponds less and less with how savers and borrowers view the world. No one knows how customers want their choices presented and delivered: whether by one or many sellers; whether from behind a desk or over the Internet. But if banks can't freely compete to see what works best, they will wither. Realizing this, Congress and government regulators are gradually lifting restrictions.

This does not mean that these mergers will succeed or that the new world of finance will be problem-free. It won't. But it does signal that banks no longer wield the influence or incite the fear they once did. Old-time bankers, writes Chernow, conducted business "on a don't-call-us-we'll-call-you basis ... and felt no need to pander to public curiosity." Their successors pester you to deal with them (as opposed to someone else). The remote custodian of capital is now a relentless pitchman. The upheaval is social and political as much as economic.

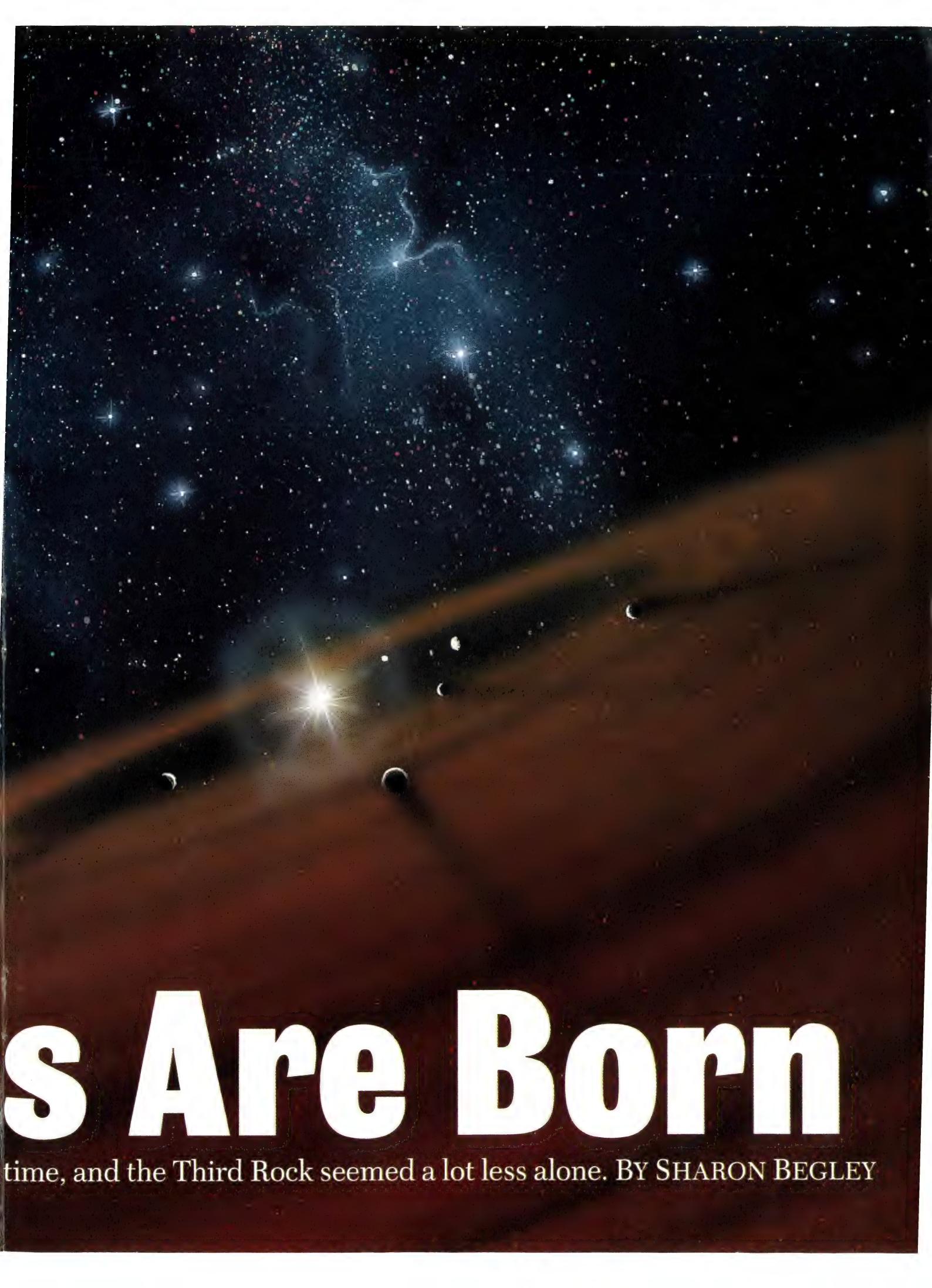
From Dust To Dawn

This digital infrared image and the artist's rendition at right show star HR 4796A spinning dust and debris into new worlds



How Planet

Last week we saw stars creating solar systems—like ours—for the first

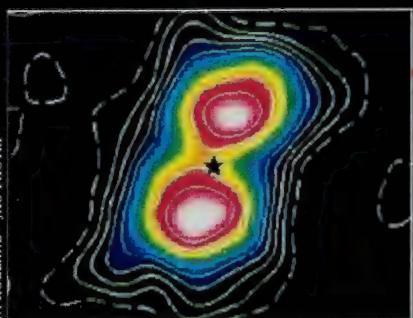


SAre Born

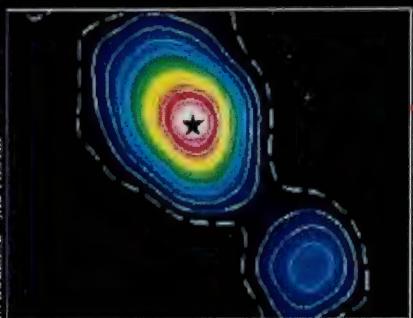
time, and the Third Rock seemed a lot less alone. BY SHARON BEGLEY

Planets in the Mist

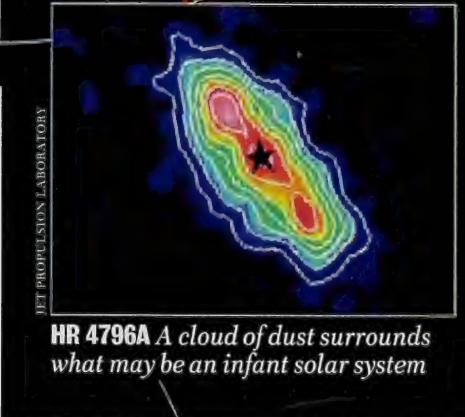
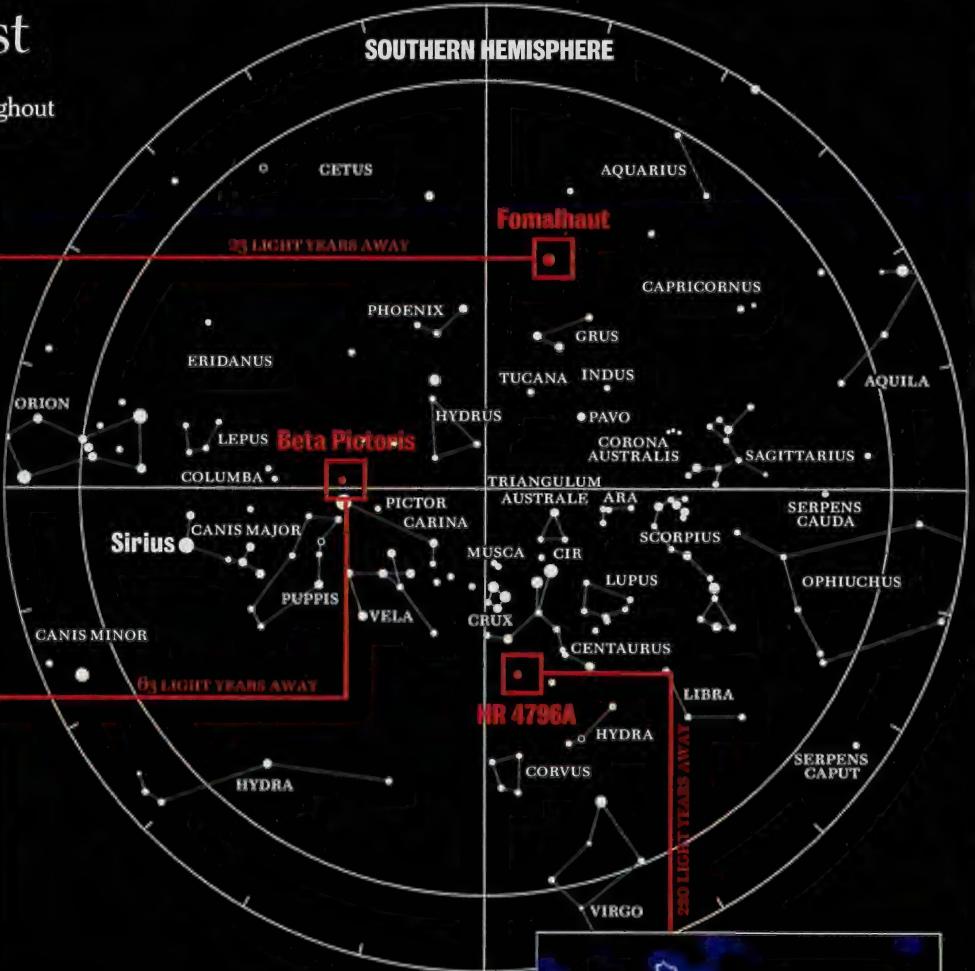
The four newly forming solar systems, announced last week, are scattered throughout the night sky.



Fomalhaut The star is circled by a dust ring (shown in red, in cross section)



Beta Pictoris The blue blob at bottom could be a planet surrounded by dust



HR 4796A A cloud of dust surrounds what may be an infant solar system

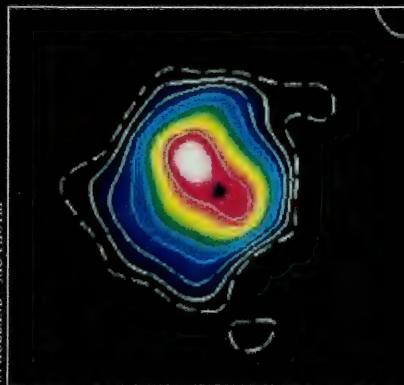
RAY JAYAWARDHANA HAD WANGLED ONLY four measly nights from the committee that parcels out observing time on the Blanco Telescope, and he was determined not to blow it. But after one exhausting flight from Boston to Santiago, Chile, another to the telescope town of La Serena and a bone-rattling four-

wheel-drive trek over mostly unpaved roads to the telescope's mountaintop home, it looked like Jayawardhana, a graduate student at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, might not have had much say in the matter. The first night was completely cloudy. The telescope—one of the most powerful in the world—couldn't even have seen the moon. The second night was too humid: water molecules in the air sucked up the rays of light that Jayawardhana's intended cosmic targets emit. But on the third night, March 18, the astronomy gods smiled. After filling out his order for "night lunch" and eating an early dinner, Jayawardhana settled into the ground-floor

control room four stories below the telescope a little after 6 p.m. Then he and two colleagues got down to the business of figuring out whether the formation of Earth and the other planets in our solar system was an interesting little experiment that nature never repeated—or was something so common that planets pop up like dandelions in April.

At 7 p.m., the team typed into the computer the coordinates of the first star they wanted to observe. Boring. Three more stars, three more duds. Then, at 1 a.m., the astronomers pointed the four-meter Blanco at HR 4796A, in the southern constellation Centaurus. Then they gambled. All night

they had been using a filter on the telescope's camera that let through only a certain kind of lightwaves—*infrared* (heat) radiation with a wavelength of 10 microns. The atmosphere absorbs most other infrared rays. "But we knew that HR 4796A would really only be interesting at 20 microns," says University of Florida astronomer Charles Telesco: 20 microns is the wavelength of radiation the star's most interesting features emit. "So we decided to try it." The new image floored them: it showed, around 4796A, a disc of matter spread out like a lily pad around a blossom. Unable to believe their luck, "at first we thought the telescope was out of focus or



Vega A dust concentration (the white patch) 7 billion miles from Vega may hide a giant planet



The Keck observatory (above) and the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope in Hawaii, and Chile's Cerro Tololo recorded the recently discovered budding solar systems

something," says Telesco. But by 4:30 a.m. they knew it wasn't. For the first time since man began looking to the heavens for hints of our past and our future, sky watchers had spied a planetary construction zone, a disc of dust condensing into solid little spheres in exactly the process that apparently formed Earth and the other planets of our solar system starting 4.5 billion years ago. "We have caught this disc in the act!" said Jayawardhana after his team announced the discovery last week. "We've never done that before. It suggests that the formation of planetary systems is pretty common."

Last week should go down in the annals of astronomy as baby-solar-system week. The team that discovered the planetary construction zone around 4796A had company—and competition. On March 16, astronomers from Caltech and NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, working at the 10-meter Keck II Telescope atop Mauna Kea in Hawaii, had independently seen the same disc about 4796A. They, too, went public last week. And on the same day, astronomers at UCLA and the Joint Astronomy Centre in Hawaii joined in. They

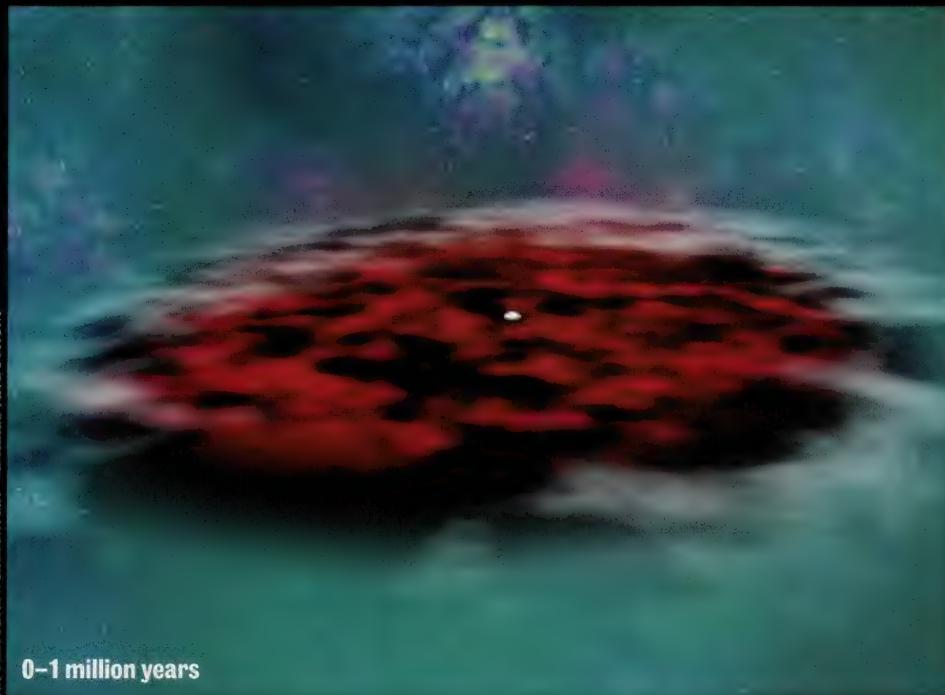
reported that they had used the 15-meter James Clerk Maxwell Telescope on the 14,000-foot Mauna Kea last year to take the first snapshots of gargantuan dust discs around three stars beloved of backyard observers—Vega, Beta Pictoris and Fomalhaut. As with 4796A, there are hints that discs around these stars, too, contain either planetary systems in the midst of coalescing or even fully formed Jupiter-like orbs. If that is so, then these are the earliest planet-making systems astronomers have ever spotted. Suddenly, our own Third Rock is looking a lot less lonely.

Astronomers took pains to point out that this research was about little brown planets, not little green men. But the message was clear. If you have a star that's not too old and not too young, not too big and not too small, not too hot and not too cold, then it is practically inevitable that planets form around such a Goldilocks star. Planets are the first prerequisite for life. And now there are hints that the galaxy is teeming with them. "I'd bet big money now that there are planets around 30 to 50 percent of stars," says astronomer Dana Backman of Franklin and Marshall College.

Before this, astronomers had observed several high points in the life of stars. They had seen star birth: in 1995 the Hubble Space Telescope photographed new stars—1 million years old or less—in the constellation Orion "so young that they hadn't started to form planets around themselves yet," says Harvard's Lee Hartmann. And they had observed stars in middle age: in 1995, telescopes glimpsed the first evidence of fully formed planets orbiting mature stars way beyond our sun. And they had observed star deaths, in the titanic explosions of supernovae. But according to the latest finds—made possible by new detectors developed for the Star Wars anti-missile program—Vega, Beta Pic, Fomalhaut and HR 4796A are all leaving their wild youth behind and settling down to parenthood but have not yet entered their golden years. For the first time, says David Koerner of the University of Pennsylvania, "we're seeing a young adult star starting its own family of planets."

The basic picture of how this occurs hasn't changed since the 1940s. It starts with the fact that space is full of clouds of dust and gas. Some of the clouds are pri-

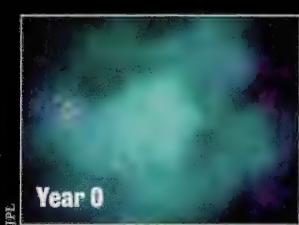




0-1 million years



1-10 million years



Year 0

A Star System Is Born

Our solar system is nearly 5 billion years old, but astronomers have a good idea of how it may have formed. Using Earth's past as a model, here's a rough guide to what might be occurring in the four recently discovered star systems.



Year 0 A dense, spinning cloud of gas and dust starts collapsing, forming a solar nebula

0-1 million years Spin increases and a star forms. Dust particles coalesce into protoplanets.

mordial, formed in the big bang, and some are recycled, spewed out of dying, exploding stars. The clouds, maybe 10 or 20 light-years across, look like those in the sky, with shapes ranging from wispy cirrus to anvil-like cumulonimbus. Thanks to dumb luck, some spots within the cloud are denser than others. Greater density means more matter in a given volume; more matter means more gravity, and more gravity means that this spot attracts more dust to it. "Eventually," says Telesco, "it forms a knot that becomes hot enough and compressed enough for atomic nuclei to start fusing." A star, as they say, is born.

The remaining dust rotates faster. The resulting centrifugal force flattens the dust cloud, much like spinning a hunk of pizza dough flattens it into a disc. Again, there are randomly scattered lumps. These lumps attract the dust around them. That makes them even denser, and thus more attractive, and after a few million years planets form. Jupiter- and Saturn-size gasbags take shape first, far out. Rocky Earths and Marses form later, closer in. Or, at least that's what happens in computer simulations. The four stars where astronomers

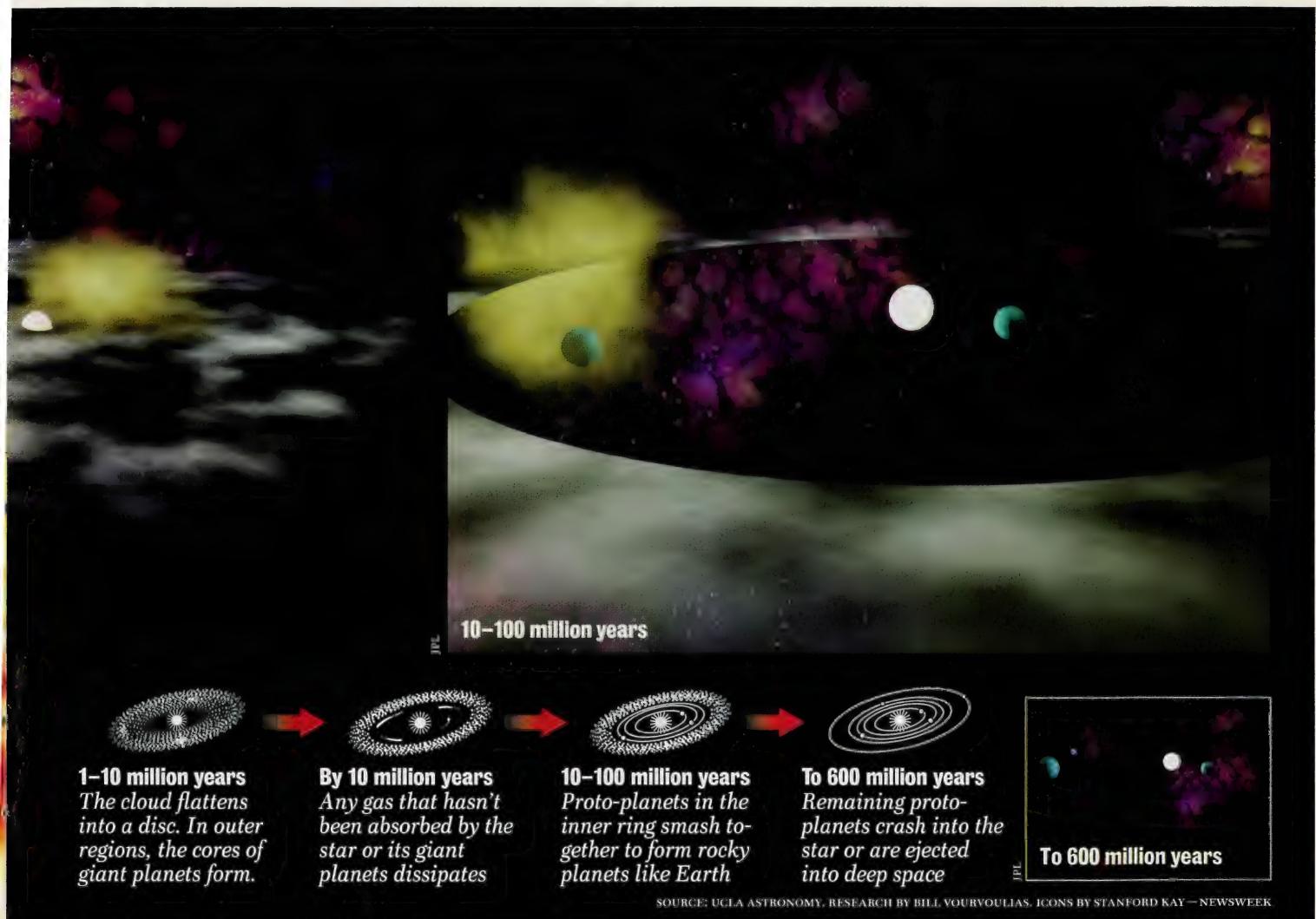
now suspect solar systems are popping into existence suggest that spinning off a retinue of planets is about as natural for a star as twinkling—but also that scientists still have a lot to learn about the process.

HR 4796A is about 10 million years old, the age that our sun was when Jupiter and Saturn formed. The Keck and Blanco telescope observations show that it is surrounded by a hot, tenuous disc of dust, apparently made of silicates, water ice and perhaps iron, graphite and other compounds. But the disc is shaped more like a bagel than a pancake. It's the invisible stuff—the hole—that got everyone excited. Tiny dust particles left over from the star's own birth are warmed by the star and therefore glow with radiant heat. This glow is what infrared telescopes capture. But larger objects are too faint to detect. Since infrared cameras captured no glow near the star, the astronomers made much ado about this nothing: they believe that planets are forming, or may already have formed, in the dark, seemingly empty region. "The reason for the hole could be that the gravity of one or more inner planets has [pulled] out the leftover dust," says

Lee Hartmann, much like a magnet attracts iron filings.

Fomalhaut is the brightest star in Piscis Austrinus, another southern constellation. It is about 200 million years old, roughly the age our sun was when the rocky, inner planets, from Mercury to Mars, formed. Special detectors on the Keck II telescope found that a huge disc of dust around Fomalhaut has a hollow center like HR 4796A's. A ho-hum explanation is that either Fomalhaut's stellar wind blew out the nearby debris or its gravity slurped up the dust. The more interesting possibility is that in this hole—also about the size of our own system of planets—the missing dust has coalesced "into rocky planets like the Earth," says Wayne Holland of the Joint Astronomy Centre.

The UCLA-JAC astronomers did not target Vega because the movie "Contact" depicted a civilization orbiting this star. Vega, in the constellation Lyra, is some 350 million years old. Like Fomalhaut, it is of the right age to be circled by Earth-like planets. Vega, too, is veiled in glowing dust, though its dust disc is more tenuous than Fomalhaut's. Most of the dust is con-



SOURCE: UCLA ASTRONOMY. RESEARCH BY BILL YOURVOULIAS. ICONS BY STANFORD KAY — NEWSWEEK

centrated in a blob 6.5 billion miles away from the star. This is almost twice as far out as Pluto is from the sun. "This bright blob is a real mystery," says UCLA's Benjamin Zuckerman. If life imitated "Contact," it might be "a dust cloud around a giant planet orbiting Vega." The only hitch is that a planet taking shape so far from its star flouts all the laws of planet formation. "That could be the most interesting thing to come out of this," says Zuckerman. "The theory of planetary formation doesn't predict that we would find these things that far out."

IF GIANT GASEOUS PLANETS CAN form so far away, it might clear the way—literally—for life on Earth-like planets. The giants, through their immense gravity, act like solar-system Hoovers: they vacuum up rocks left over from the original dust cloud that are still smashing into everything in their path. "This is not a trivial thing for life," says Penn's Koerner. "It's possible that if you don't clear out this stuff quickly we would have a lot of [aster-

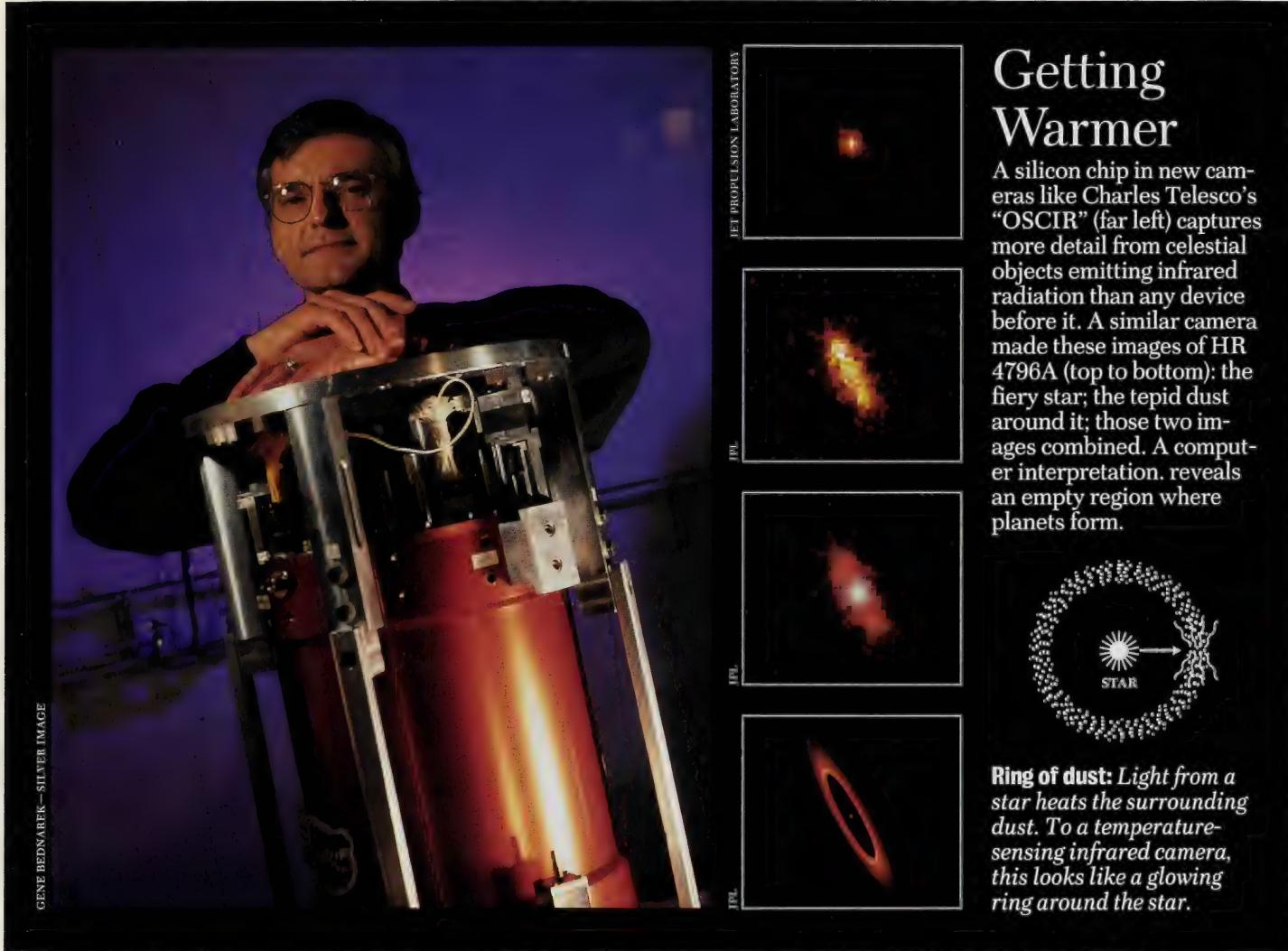
oid-induced] extinctions." In terms of life, a planet might never get past the pond-scum stage.

Beta Pictoris, in the constellation Pictor (the "Painter's Easel"), seems to be only 30 million years old. Astronomers had taken its picture before, when the Infrared Astronomical Satellite pointed its telescope that way in 1983. That's when scientists first saw dust discs around stars. But since the disc seemed not to have a swept-out region in its center, it didn't make the cut as a hatchery for planets. The UCLA-JAC team didn't see any hole in the disc this time, either. But they did see, as at Vega, a mysterious blob in Beta Pic's disc, more than 10 times as far from Vega as Pluto is from the sun. Again, that's supposedly too far out for a planet. Still, Zuckerman says, this may well be "a planetlike object surrounded by dust, which is completely unexpected, a total mystery." If it is a planet, then "planets are a common phenomenon," says Holland, and the supposed rules for where they can form are laxer than astronomers thought.

Even before last week's finds astronomers were starting to suspect that the cre-

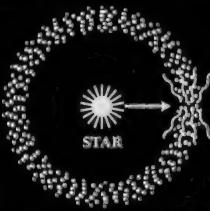
ation of planets might not follow the rules. In 1995, researchers in Switzerland discovered the first of what are now eight planets orbiting stars far beyond our solar system (star maps). Five of them defy the textbooks by being as large as or larger than Jupiter—yet orbiting even closer to their stars than Mercury does. "No one expected to find any giant planet so close to a star," write astronomers Geoffrey Marcy and Paul Butler, who discovered six of the eight new planets. "No one knows for sure how they could have gotten there." The best guess is that the newborn star's magnetic field clears out a hole—like those around HR 4796A and Fomalhaut—by flinging dust outward or slurping it up. This hole provides a safe parking place for a planet that formed farther out and is swept toward the star by dust. The planet stops once it reaches the cleared-out zone because there is no flow of dust to pull it along like a leaf in a river current. That suggests that just because a planet forms too far from its star to sustain life doesn't mean it will stay in the frigid zone forever.

It's not exactly practical to keep telescopes trained on 4796A in order to check



Getting Warmer

A silicon chip in new cameras like Charles Telesco's "OSCIR" (far left) captures more detail from celestial objects emitting infrared radiation than any device before it. A similar camera made these images of HR 4796A (top to bottom): the fiery star; the tepid dust around it; those two images combined. A computer interpretation reveals an empty region where planets form.



Ring of dust: Light from a star heats the surrounding dust. To a temperature-sensing infrared camera, this looks like a glowing ring around the star.

this model by watching an entire epoch of planetary formation unfold. Besides, it's tough to get tenure when an observing project drags on for 100 million years. A smarter strategy is to search the skies for stars that are in different stages of assembling their planetary retinues. "We can't watch planets form in real time by watching just one star," explains Hartmann. "But maybe we can see it by looking at stars of all different ages." Then they would have the equivalent of a child's flip book, a series of still photos that, when put together, would show the birth and evolution of a family of planets.

New technology makes that possible. The OSCIR camera that Telesco built for the Blanco Telescope in Chile, and the infrared MIRLIN camera that the JPL team used on the Keck II, have, at their heart, a detector consisting of 16,384 pixels on a \$50,000 silicon chip just one square centimeter in size (diagram). When a ray of infrared energy falls on one of the pixels, it generates a tiny surge of electricity. A computer then translates the electrons from each pixel into a brightness value for that spot. The 16,384 brightness values form the image. The detector "lets us do actual sci-

ence on fainter objects than ever before," says Telesco. "With the large number of pixels we can see details, not just blobs."

The holy grail is to learn which planets have the potential to become habitable. For even though Earthlings seem to be alone now, they may not be so forever: if HR 4796A follows our lead, someone there may train a telescope at Earth one day. Astronomers have drawn up a short list of conditions for making a planet that can support life. The first requirement is that the planet not be in a "wacky intersecting orbit"—that's a technical term meaning it can't be on a collision course with an asteroid or comet or planet. Otherwise, says astronomer Jack Lissauer of NASA Ames Research Center, the impact would "melt a good fraction of the planet, boil off the oceans and produce a 2,000-degree atmosphere for a couple thousand years." Plenty exciting, but not great for life. Next the planet has to cool, which means it can't be too close to the star, so its crust can solidify. Luck helps, too: any planet forming near enough to a star to avoid becoming frozen is also too near to contain carbon, nitrogen or water. These

chemicals seem to be necessary for life, and all of them would have been vaporized by a young, hot star. They can, however, solidify farther out—around Jupiter, say. With any luck, comets carry them toward the new planet, which is apparently how Earth got seeded with the raw material of life. Life also needs an atmosphere. Water vapor, carbon dioxide and other gases trapped in rock can form one, but the planet needs to be heavy enough that its gravity can hold onto it.

The race to catch other solar systems in the act of forming is only beginning. Charlie Telesco has packed his camera for an observing run at Keck in early May. The Caltech-JPL team has a slot on the Keck in June. Both teams are determined to learn more about the dust disc around HR 4796A and to look for more evidence that planets are being born there—before the other guys do. But if there are truly as many planetary systems now forming as last week's discoveries hint, there should be more than enough to go round. For the story of creation is still being written in the stars.

With ANDREW MURR in Los Angeles and
THOMAS HAYDEN

The Provost Played On

In the post-affirmative-action era, minorities are a valuable commodity on California campuses

BY DONNA FOOTE
AND PATRICIA KING

IT'S JUST A TYPICAL SPRING WEEKEND for students like Tasceiae Barner. A high-school senior from Los Angeles, Barner finds herself on a patio overlooking a lush lawn on the UCLA campus, standing just a few feet from the school's chancellor. Like some 200 other kids at the reception, Barner is being ardently wooed by the school—but she has other suitors. An additional four schools are vying for her attention, and as the May 1 decision day approaches, it seems as if her phone never stops ringing. The mail brings a slick recruitment video, along with invitations to campus sleepovers and intimate alumni parties. And then there's the cash, including a \$20,000 scholarship from UCLA. "I feel special," she beams, "like I'm among the elite!" Is Barner a star forward or an Olympic skater? A violin prodigy, perhaps? None of the above. Barner is black, and she has a 4.0 grade-point average. In California these days, that makes her a valuable commodity.

This spring—the first since California's Prop 209 eliminated race as a factor in admission to eight University of California campuses—has been a trying one for educators. The UC campuses accepted 18 percent fewer black students and 7 percent fewer Hispanics than last year. That's nothing compared with what's happened at the most selective campuses. At Berkeley, a staggering 66 percent fewer black students were accepted under the new policy, along with 52.6 percent fewer Hispanics, raising the specter of an almost entirely white and Asian campus. That's why chancellors are making hundreds of arm-twisting calls, while radio ads urge minority students to enroll at a UC campus. A provost at UC San Diego, Cecil Lytle, a music professor, has been banging out Scott Joplin tunes to impress prospective students during trips to high schools. "It's a feeding frenzy out there," he says.

The panic may be premature. Like a

bunch of mathematicians puzzling over a new equation, campus administrators are still trying to figure out what the real effect of Prop 209 will be. After all, every black and Hispanic student who is "UC eligible"—with a rank in the top 12.5 percent of the high-school class—has been admitted, just as they were in the past. But with race now excluded as a factor, they're a lot less

Olivares, who's headed for Santa Cruz. She was disappointed when she didn't get into UCLA but was impressed by the smaller school's bilingual staff and the elaborate welcome mat laid out for Hispanic students. (Receptions featured tamales and beans and a Mexican dance group.) But administrators worry that minority students who might have chosen state schools will now think the UC system doesn't value diversity. And they fear that students who don't get into Berkeley or UCLA are more likely to choose a private school than another UC campus. "It could be like the '50s and '60s, when seeing a black student on campus was a cause for celebration," says Alex Saragoza, a Berkeley professor.

What does seem clear is that the new colorblind policy has proved what critics of California's schools have long contended:



Scholarly serenade: In San Diego, Lytle tries to win over prospective students with Scott Joplin

likely to walk onto the campus of their choice. So while top schools like Berkeley and UCLA are scrambling to keep their minority enrollment close to its current level, less selective campuses at Santa Cruz and Riverside actually expect to enroll more minority students. Proponents of the new system insist that this is better than having students at schools they aren't qualified to attend. "I've seen the doubt in their eyes," says Ward Connerly, the university regent who's the godfather of Prop 209. "I've seen the students trying to rationalize whether they got in on their own. Now they can walk on those campuses with their heads held high."

Some minority students agree. "I'm proud I did it on my own," says Esmerelda

that the state's minority students need extra help. UC Santa Barbara Chancellor Henry Yang notes that the pool of African-American students who are eligible for UC admissions is fewer than 1,000 a year. And their graduation rate lags well behind that of whites and Asians.

Next year UC San Diego will open the first campus-based charter school starting at grade 6 for low-income students. And Santa Cruz recently helped a class of bilingual fourth graders publish a book. "If we have to go all the way back to the first grade, then that's what we'll do," vows Santa Cruz Chancellor M.R.C. Greenwood. Even so, it would take years for recruiters to reverse the inequity at the college level. Until then, it might help if they can play the piano. ■

WILL THE BUG BITE THE BULL?

Not worried about the Millennium computer problem? The experts beg to disagree.

BY STEVEN LEVY

SCHOLARS OF FRUSTRATION—teeth-grinding, face-reddening, colon-churning frustration—would be well advised to attend the monthly meetings of the Washington, D.C., Year 2000 Group. They would find a couple of hundred people who work on the world's most important extermination job: eliminating a computer problem known as the Millennium Bug. And, are these folks ever frustrated. For months now, the citizenry has been hearing stories about what may or may not happen when midnight arrives on Jan. 31, 1999, and something unprecedented in computer history occurs: a year begins with something other than the digits "19." This phenomenon will confuse and perhaps confound the many software programs that recognize only the last two digits of the date. But the stories have had little impact: most people refuse to believe that a dorky little software error can wreak significant worldwide havoc, affecting everything from factory supply lines to the power grid.

The D.C. Year 2000 Group knows better. Most of these people head Bug-fixing initiatives in government agencies or private industry, and they understand that the problem is bewitchingly difficult to eradicate. Worse, after facing the beast on a daily basis, they must cope with widespread indifference and disbelief, on behalf not only of the general public but of national leaders who just don't seem to get it. Last week the group's organizer, Bruce Webster, released results of an admittedly informal e-mail poll he conducted in March. He asked members to estimate the impact of the Bug, on a scale of 0 to 10. Viewed on a chart, the bell-shaped distribution seems reassuring. But when you take a close look at what the levels of impact actually mean, you realize that we may have a train wreck in the making. This diagnosis, straight from the doctors, is anything but assuring.

Consider Level 3 on the 10-point scale. It represents a belief that the Bug will trigger a 20 percent drop in the stock market and "some bankruptcies." (These business failures would presumably come from internal computer breakdowns, or a lack of supplies.) *Eighty-four percent* of the 229 experts responding chose Level 3 or above. Got that, investors? As would be expected in a bell-shaped distribution, the single most popular choice was Level 5. Those who chose it believe that the computer blip will cause "mild recession; isolated supply/infrastructure problems [shortages in fuel, electrical power disruptions, etc.]; runs on banks." (The



Time to call your broker? The market—and everything else—could be in trouble

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN RIZZO

infrastructure risk comes from its dependence on computers that may crash if not properly fixed before 2000.) So much for the bull market.

What did the pessimists think? A third of the group guesses the Bug will cause, at minimum, "a strong recession, local social disruptions, and many business bankruptcies." And 26 percent anticipate "political crises within the U.S. and regional social disruptions." Scary. I won't even ponder the fact that a tenth of these experts selected Level 8: depression, market collapse and local martial law. (Thankfully only a few chose Level 10: "Collapse of U.S. government; possible famine.")

The survey, of course, is only the latest indication that it might be a good idea to celebrate the Millennium with candlelight and a mattress stuffed with dead presidents. Ed Yardeni, the chief economist of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, has estimated the odds of a Bug-based recession as 60 percent. He bases this in part on the dismal performance of the U.S. government. In March, Rep. Stephen Horn (Congress's most avid Bug-watcher) handed the Feds a report card on their Year 2000 effort. The overall grade was D-, with Defense and Transportation getting flat Fs. "We view the problem as a high-risk situation," says the GAO's Joel Willemsen, "We are acknowledging that there will be failures." While some

businesses are responding aggressively to the problem, our computers work in an incredibly complex web of interdependence, and even if a given bank or auto manufacturer manages to stamp out all its bugs, failures by partners and suppliers can still grind things to a halt.

And what if a major component of our economy, like air transportation, gets grounded? Funny you ask. Unless the Bug is purged, the air-traffic-control system will do a total Cinderella on New Year's Eve. The FAA insists that the fix will come in time, but recent GAO congressional testimony concluded that "at its current pace, it will not make it in time." If so, the Bug could transform the friendly skies to the lonely skies.

In this rare, raging-bull moment of American sunshine, the Year 2000 Group's wake-up call seems easy to ignore. But Bruce Webster, the group's organizer, notes that these are the people most familiar with the problem. Worse, in Webster's observation, "the longer people work in this area, the more pessimistic they are." Can *anything* be done at this late date? Start a more urgent mobilization, from the top, says Webster, beginning with a presidential address. (Our supposedly techno-savvy VP might get in on this, too—after all, how can he run in 2000 if his campaign plane literally can't get off the ground?) Representative Horn endorses this bully-pulpit approach, saying he's "discouraged" by the White House response.

I've known Bruce Webster, who's been trying to fix the Bug for a federal agency, ever since he wrote a cool game for the Apple II—so I was curious to hear his own assessment of what will happen when the clock strikes midnight. "Level 7," he said. That means "political crises; regional supply/infrastructure problems and social disruptions." It sounds outlandish, but consider the source: when it comes to the Year 2000 Bug, he knows more than you do.

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Lady McCartney

After an astonishingly loyal 29 years of marriage, Paul loses his lovely Linda

BY JEFF GILES

OVER THE YEARS, "SANTA BARBARA" became code words. Yes, the McCartneys visited California off and on, but for two decades their real retreat from the world was 600 miles away, near Tucson, Ariz. Paul and Linda had a 150-acre spread, crisscrossed with horse trails, carpeted with brilliant yellow brittle-brush flowers and dotted with prickly pear and Saguaro cactuses. The ranch didn't offer much security, but then Tucson was one place they didn't need it. The locals left Sir Paul and Lady Linda alone. And the fans and the press? It seems whenever the McCartneys left England, they told the world they were going to Santa Barbara. "They *had* to do that," says a friend. "There had been a kidnapping attempt at their place in Sussex—they came after Linda, I think—and there was a lingering paranoia after John Lennon's death. So they kept their travel plans secret and talked in code. Whenever the secretaries said Paul and Linda were off to Santa Barbara, you knew Paul and Linda were off to Tucson."

Last week the code could not save them. On April 17, Linda, 56, died in Tucson after the breast cancer she'd been fighting for two years spread to her liver. She had been a rock photographer; an entrepreneur; an evangelical veggie; a musician, though many begged to differ, and the subject of every love song Paul's written since 1969. She and her husband were married 29 years—the only nights they ever spent apart came during the 10 days the singer sat in a Tokyo jail after a marijuana bust—and raised four kids that even their on-again-off-again nemesis Yoko Ono once described in these pages as "beautiful children."

Paul has lost people before, and not always known quite how to respond. When he was 14, his father told him his mother had died of breast cancer, and he said something flip about his mom's salary as a midwife that he'd long regret: "What are we going to do without her money?" When he was 38 and a camera crew demanded a reaction to Lennon's murder, he called it "a drag," a remark that was misinterpreted and flung back at him for years. But when Linda died, the floodgates opened. Paul kept her death a se-



'Maybe I'm amazed ...

cret from the press for two days, so he and his children could have Linda's body cremated and fly back to England in peace. But then he released a long, emotional statement, saying, "This is a total heartbreak for my family and I. Linda was, and still is, the love of my life and the past two years we spent battling her disease have been a nightmare." The members of the McCartney camp, however, also spoke in code for one last time. Hoping to live and grieve in private, they claimed Linda had died in Santa Barbara.

Last Wednesday spokesmen for the Santa Barbara coroner's office announced that the McCartneys hadn't filed a death certificate with the county, which meant that any cremation would have been illegal. The spokesmen said that they were launching an investigation and that charges could conceivably be brought. Then, for 24 hours, the press wondered aloud if Paul and Linda had conspired in an assisted suicide, a theory discredited by reports that a death certificate had been issued in—surprise, sur-

prise—Arizona. "Knowing them, an assisted suicide is just inconceivable," says another friend. "Their daughter Mary was getting married next month. They deliberately moved the wedding up to May when they got the diagnosis that Linda's illness was terminal. Linda was working on her daughter's wedding! If she could have, she would have lived to see it."

When Paul and Linda's own wedding was announced back in 1969, disconsolate fans stood outside his home, causing the



Wedding-day dreams:
With Heather

JOHN KELLY-CAMERA PRESS-RETNA

... at the way you love me all the time ...

last bachelor Beatle to come to the gates at one point and say, "Look, girls, be fair. I had to get married some time." To put it mildly, Linda, like Yoko, was not what fans were looking for in a Beatle bride. She was an American, for starters. She'd grown up in Scarsdale, N.Y., the daughter of a powerful entertainment lawyer, Lee Eastman. By the time she met Paul at a London nightclub in 1967, she was divorced, working as a photographer and raising a daughter named Heather. Paul loved Linda's met-

tle—she was "a bit of a groover, a little bit naughty," he said later. He was utterly charmed when she asked him to baby-sit. Early on, detractors wrote Linda off as an ambitious groupie, but her mid-'60s photos of Hendrix, Joplin and the like are wonderfully unguarded portraits of the people who made the decade go round. After a March wedding, Paul adopted Heather, and he and Linda embarked on a marriage impressive by any standard, but astonishing for a celebrity couple. "Paul was determined to

keep it an absolutely normal sort of marriage," says a friend. "He wanted to re-create his home life as a kid. He had an idyllic view of his life up until his mother died, and that was what he clung to as normalcy amidst all the madness of the Beatles."

Paul and Linda raised their son, James, now 20, and their three daughters, Stella, 26, Mary, 28, and Heather, 34, to be as grounded as any children of theirs could be. For years, the McCartneys lived in a two-bedroom farmhouse in Sussex. They es-

chewed nannies and servants, and sent their kids to state schools. In the '70s, Linda-bashing began anew when McCartney formed Wings, and insisted his untrained wife play keyboards and sing backup so that the couple would never be separated. Linda was without delusions about her musical gifts, and wanted out of the band after she was ridiculed by fans. Paul, who can be epically willful, wanted her to stay. She stayed. Years later, a humiliating bootleg tape of a 1989 concert was played on radio stations everywhere. An unfriendly sound engineer had apparently isolated Linda's backing vocals on "Hey Jude," and, yes, her rendition of the *na, na, na, na-na-na, na* chorus was so wildly atonal that it approached performance art. "Paul and Linda's children, when they talk about their mother, are very protective," a sympathetic Yoko Ono told NEWSWEEK in 1995. "And from that I know that there is pain in the McCartney family about Linda being attacked. And the same with me. My son is very protective of me because of that."

Linda developed preternaturally thick skin. And even if her musicianship never won many fans, her beliefs about vegetarianism and animal rights came into vogue: her prepackaged Ready Meals made her a millionaire in her own right. Linda's veggie crusade had an unapologetically hippie air. She saved animals from slaughter, commented on the emotional life of tuna, invited house guests to eat flowers from her garden. Linda told everyone, "Never

Rock royalty:
With Princess Diana in the fall of 1992. The McCartneys tried to live a resolutely ordinary life on their farm in Sussex, but Paul's fame could open any and all doors.



Yesterday:
(Clockwise from right) Daughter Stella walks down the runway with a model, Paul poses for Linda circa 1970, Wings takes flight, the couple hold infant Mary



...Maybe I'm afraid of the way I love you'

eat anything with a face," and inscribed her best-selling cookbooks with, "Go veggie now!" Paul was always alongside her, whether the family was in England, Scotland, Arizona or in the renovated barn they turned into a home in Amagansett on New York's Long Island. "He was the lord of the manor, and she was the lady," says a friend. "There was a funky aristocratic manner about the whole thing. She wore a muumuu. He wore a T shirt and shorts."

In 1995 a routine scan turned up a malignant breast lump. Linda had it removed and underwent chemotherapy and radiotherapy. The McCartneys were unflaggingly upbeat about Linda's

condition, though people noticed when she was absent on important occasions, like the time Paul received his knighthood from the queen. Before her sudden end, she did venture out to see her daughter Stella—a newly famous fashion designer—present her second collection for Chloe in Paris. And she took in the debut of Paul's symphonic work,

MARY MCCARTNEY-PA



Tall in the saddle: Linda in Sussex only days before her death

"Standing Stone," at Carnegie Hall last November, drawing an ovation as she entered. "It was one of the rare times," says a friend, "that she saw a public display of love for her."

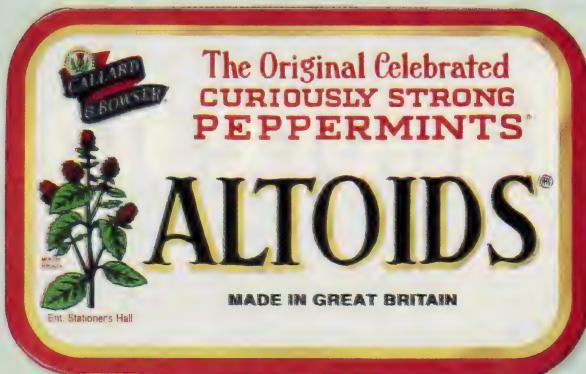
By last Thursday the media had converged on the secret ranch in Tucson. Satellite trucks clogged the road, and helicopters

hovered overhead. Linda's death had already had a powerful effect. Many spoke in wonderment of her marriage; others, particularly women, shuddered to think even a devout vegetarian could be killed by cancer. "The McCartneys had all the money in the world," said a tourist who stopped to take in the atmosphere outside the ranch. "Enough to afford their privacy. Enough to give them a beautiful view. But all the money in the world wasn't enough to keep her alive." In his statement, Paul said of Linda's death, "We will never get over it, but I think we will come to accept it." The family members hope the Tucson ranch will remain private, though the

media, of course, will never again believe them when they say they're going to Santa Barbara. The code has been broken, along with Paul McCartney's heart.

With PETER ANNIN and RANDY COLLIER in Tucson, ANA FIGUEROA in Santa Barbara, GREGORY BEALS in New York and SHEHNAZ SUTERWALLA in London

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*Based on vertex studies at 24 months of men 18 to 41 with mild to moderate hair loss.

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Only a doctor can determine if PROPECIA is right for you. PROPECIA is for **men only**. Further, women who are or may potentially be pregnant must not use PROPECIA and should not handle crushed or broken tablets because of the risk of a specific kind of birth defect. (See accompanying Patient Information for details.) PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling.

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What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss on the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area.

PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s.

Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel™*** Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

- Take one tablet by mouth each day.
- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
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Issued December 1997
9090801

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Who should **NOT** take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:
 - **must not use PROPECIA**
 - **should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.**

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

The active ingredient in PROPECIA is also used by older men at a five-times higher dose to treat enlargement of the prostate. Some of these men reported other side effects, including problems with ejaculation, breast swelling and/or tenderness and allergic reactions such as lip swelling and rash. In clinical studies with PROPECIA, these side effects occurred as often in men taking placebo as in those taking PROPECIA.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual effects.

- **PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.**

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. **PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.**

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

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MARINA GARNIER

A literary couple: Ross and Shawn at a 1991 dinner at the Plaza, site of their first tryst

I D E A S

A New Yorker Love Story

He was a legendary editor; she was his adoring star

BY LAURA SHAPIRO

THERE IS A CLASSIC MOMENT IN THE life of a saint, at least as chronicled by the devout, when the hero as a tiny babe stands up on his mother's lap and pipes, "Glory to God!" Unaccountably, Lillian Ross omits such an episode from "Here But Not Here," her otherwise wholly hagiographic portrait of the late, celebrated New Yorker editor William Shawn—her semisecret lover for 40 years. Although Random House will not publish Ross's memoir until June, gossip about its contents has been rampant for months in New York publishing circles. Did Shawn's widow, Cecille, 92, know about the affair? Why publish now instead of waiting until after her death, as decency would seem to demand? Did Tina Brown, The New Yorker's current editor, who is often accused of vulgarizing Shawn's great magazine, urge Ross to tell all?

Galleys of the book, which have just been made available, provide some answers—plus a large helping of cognitive dissonance, courtesy of the author. Ross is famous for the artistry of her just-the-facts reporting style, invented and honed at The New Yorker. But with this memoir she has a legend to create, a Camelot that stars herself and Shawn, and nothing is going to in-

terfere—certainly not rude questions from skeptics. Ye of little faith, she seems to be saying, go read something else.

The affair, she writes, began in 1952. Shawn was 45, married 24 years, and the editor of what he was busily turning into the finest magazine in the country. Ross was some 20 years younger and a rising star among his writers. One day in the office the two simply stared at each other, then raced uptown to the Plaza Hotel. From then on, they were a couple: they got an apartment half a mile from the home he still shared with his wife and two sons; they went to theaters, restaurants, jazz clubs; they adopted and raised a son. It was a charmed existence, Ross suggests—or would have been if Shawn hadn't been burdened with such a heavy halo.

Here was a man, writes Ross in evident awe, who was "eternally designated to serve others," "a man who grieved over all living creatures but did not know how to grieve over himself." To Shawn, "every life was sacred," he couldn't bear "unnecessary cruelty and destructiveness," "he was never vindictive, and he would never, never hit back." In fact, he was "genuinely meek, in the beatitudinal, the biblical sense." He certainly had a penchant for Biblical turns of phrase. About spending time with his other

family, he used to tell Ross, "I am there but I am not there." Ross pondered this for years (maybe it was more profound in the original Aramaic).

But meekness and beatitude aren't what come to mind when Ross describes Shawn's treatment of his wife. Ross writes that Shawn told Cecille everything and asked Cecille to leave him, but she refused. And he, in turn, wouldn't leave Cecille—for reasons Ross never explains. Instead he chose to shuttle back and forth between the two women, bravely enduring what he called the "punishment" of knowing exactly how much his wife was suffering. The day Shawn told Cecille he was putting a private phone line in his bedroom, so he could talk to Ross at any hour, he was probably just taking a much-needed break from grieving over all living creatures.

Neither Ross, nor Tina Brown, nor anyone involved in the book would comment on it. But longtime New Yorker staff writer Ved Mehta—who interviewed Cecille for his own new book about Shawn, "Remembering Mr. Shawn's New Yorker"—says that despite the

widely rumored affair, he always found the Shaws to be a happy and affectionate couple. He didn't ask Cecille about the affair, but she did drop a remark that inadvertently lands right at the heart of Ross's personal Camelot. "I was fortunate in getting pregnant as soon as Bill decided to try," she told Mehta. "I had no mind of my own; I always did whatever he wanted me to do."

As for Brown, it's not hard to see why she might have been eager for this memoir to appear. It gets the whole town talking about The New Yorker, which she relishes; and it gives her controversial reign a boost. Ross speaks far more highly about Brown—who invited her to write for the magazine after Shawn's death—than most of Shawn's acolytes do. "Surprising as it may seem on the surface, William Shawn and Tina Brown ... are indeed similar," she insists in the book. But kinder advisers would have urged Ross to wait before publishing this *apologia*—or not publish at all. Better for her to have tucked her notes deep into a library archive, where a researcher could pounce upon them decades hence. Then, from a proper distance, the world would decide whether Ross really is describing a love story of epic proportions—or just three characters in search of an analyst.

With RAY SAWHILL



'Just a white guy trying to fit in': (Left to right) Cryer, Fox and Martin get personal

TELEVISION

In Laughing Color

Three new sitcoms mix it up in black and white

BY RICK MARIN

DAMON WAYANS HAD ONE REQUEST for his new show, "Damon," which debuted on Fox last month: "not to be on Thursday night," says the black actor-comedian, joking about the network's tendency to counterprogram NBC's lily-white lineup of "Friends," "Seinfeld" & Co. with black-oriented programming like "Martin" and "Living Single." "I told them early on, 'Give me anything but n---- night for my show.'"

They did. What's more, they greenlighted a fully integrated cast for his squad-room sitcom. That's surprising not just for Fox but for any network. Typically, a show like "Damon" would be either all-black or all-white (in which case it would be called "Tony" and star Tony Danza). "Our show is about an inner-city police department," Wayans says. "If we were to portray that as a one-color situation, we wouldn't be true to what's real. I don't know what world the people at the networks are living in, but the one I live in has every color."

A seemingly obvious point, but one the networks may just be waking up to. Besides "Damon," two more interracial comedies turned up last month as midseason replacements: "Getting Personal" (also on Fox) and

NBC's "For Your Love." It's a mini-harmonic convergence that may turn into a bigger TV trend, if the ratings hold up and viewers can handle the idea of Jon Cryer and Vivica A. Fox working for the same Chicago ad agency.

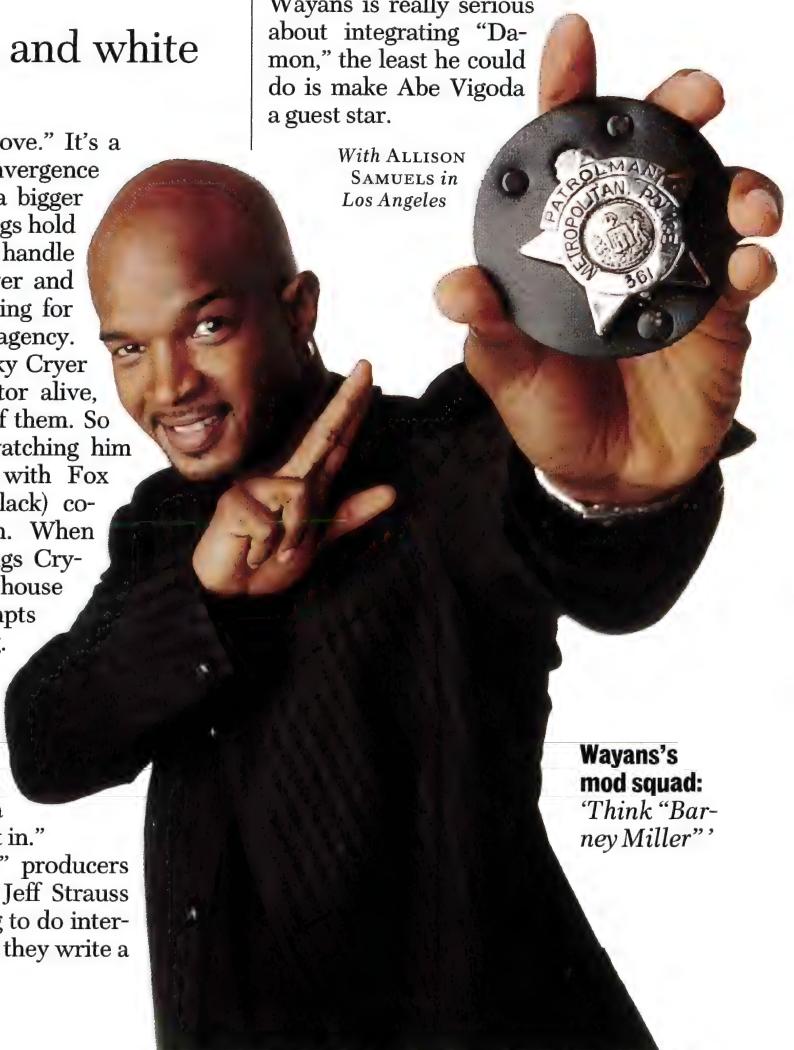
If the skinny, dorky Cryer isn't the whitest actor alive, he's definitely one of them. So it's a little weird watching him trading wisecracks with Fox and their fellow (black) co-star, Duane Martin. When Fox's character brings Cryer's to her parents' house for dinner, he attempts a little black slang. "You put your foot in it," he says of her mother's cooking. Fox gives him a look. Cryer turns sheepish: "Just a white guy trying to fit in."

"Getting Personal" producers Jeff Greenstein and Jeff Strauss say they're not trying to do interracial humor, though they write a

healthy share of "your people/my people" jokes. "We chose people who were right for each role, and it just happened they were of all colors," says Strauss. Fox says bad experiences with other "so-called black shows" like ABC's failed "Arsenio" made her wary of doing more: "I wanted to have input on story lines and context." Having Arsenio Hall's best friend be white was "forced," she says, while black and white people working in the same office is "realistic."

The setup of NBC's "For Your Love" seems forced, but the show isn't. And so far it's the highest rated of the new desegregated comedies. Black newlyweds (Holly Robinson Peete and James Lesure) move in next door to their white best friends (Dedee Pfeiffer and D. W. Moffett). Domestic high jinks ensue. "This is just normal to me, and it makes me laugh when people think otherwise," says Peete, whose father produced "The Cosby Show." In fact, the long-running "Cosby" was the last time both black and white viewers flocked to the same show. Now, not a single program in the Nielsen top 10 for white viewers is also in the top 10 for black viewers. It wasn't that way in the days of "All in the Family," "The Jeffersons," "Good Times." Says Wayans: "In a way, some of the shows during the '70s were more realistic. Think 'Barney Miller'." If Wayans is really serious about integrating "Damon," the least he could do is make Abe Vigoda a guest star.

With ALLISON
SAMUELS in
Los Angeles



Wayans's
mod squad:
'Think "Barney Miller"'

FASHION

It Rhymes With Bikini

With a tankini, you don't let it all hang out

BY ALISHA DAVIS

ADD A NEW WORD TO YOUR FASHION vocabulary: tankini (n. A two-piece swimsuit comprising a tank top and a bikini bottom). A few inches of fabric and a silly name make all the difference—at least that's what the retailers hawking the next/new/hot must-have want you to think. "More and more, swimwear is following the trends for ready-to-wear," explains Nicole Fischelis, fashion director for Saks Fifth Avenue. "And ready-to-wear has had a season of refinement and femininity." That leaves the thongs and string bikinis better suited to the babes of "Baywatch" all washed up. On deck this summer is a trend toward performance (meaning swimsuits you can actually wear in the



Hot: Gucci on the runway and *Cosmo*

water). Joining tankini on the racks is the similarly orthographically challenged "monokini," a one-piece with sexy cutouts.

Retailers are betting that these styles will make a splash with women whose "Abs of Steel" videos are collecting dust. "If you don't feel comfortable wearing a bikini, the tankini's an option that's sort of in between," says Vogue fashion-news director Katherine Betts. It's amphibious sportswear for sand or sea.

"Vacation's not just about going to the beach or lying in the sun," says Betts. "People are rafting and playing volleyball and swimming. And they want to do them without worrying about losing their top."

As with all fashion trends, there are upscale and mainstream versions. Gucci's crystal-studded tankini, on the May covers of both Harper's Bazaar and Cosmopolitan, retails for a shocking \$2,425. Designers like Isaac Mizrahi, Michael Kors and Ann Cole are offering slightly more affordable models (\$80-\$620). J. Crew's tankini top is a realistic \$38, and if you're really looking for a bargain, there's the \$7.99 halter at Target. Now if designers could just find a way to hide hips, we'd have the swimwear equivalent of the little black dress. ■



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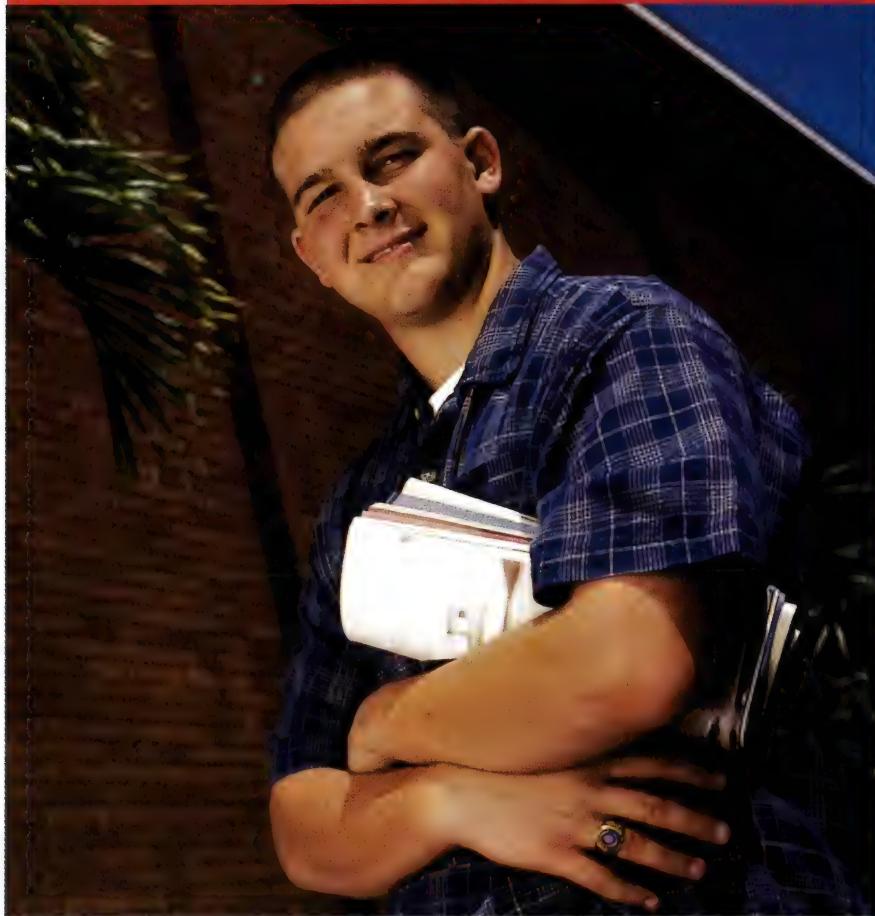
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Defining the American Dream



"It helps [you] become the best you can be."

Ken Odum, a senior at Miami Springs High School, will never forget the day he interviewed Craig Counsell, who helped clinch last year's World Series for the Florida Marlins. It was a scoop for Golden Hawk Publishing's *Endeavor*, a magazine company created by Ken's Junior Achievement Economics class. Says Scott Stawski, an advertising manager and the JA volunteer who helped bring together the teenage editor and the Marlin superstar, "Ken's got a lot of common sense and tremendous follow-up. He makes sure things get done."

Ken maintains good marks, holds down an after-school job in a scuba equipment store and sells ads for *Endeavor*. "Running Golden Hawk hasn't been much different from doing business in the real world," says Stawski, noting Ken's managerial skills and *Endeavor's* "impressive" 30% profit margin. Looks like Ken is a magazine mogul in the making.

IN HIS WORDS: Ken Odum, this month's Free Enterprise Ambassador, talks about the American dream and Junior Achievement.

Q: What is your American dream?

A: Going to college, making a good living, [and having] a family.

Q: What is your idea of a dream job?

A: There are a lot of things I'd like to do. Maybe flying. Maybe medicine. Or maybe sportswriting. I've always liked to write because you can be creative. It makes you form your own opinions.

Q: How has JA helped you define your American dream?

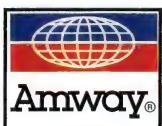
A: JA let me experience what it's like to be a sportswriter. It has shown me what you can do after you get out of school.

Q: What is the most important lesson you learned from JA?

A: I got a good idea of what goes into a publishing company. I did know a little bit about stocks before JA came along, but I wasn't all that aware of the importance of mutual funds. My JA class taught me what business and the stock market are all about. All in all, I learned how to use money wisely.

Q: Is there something you would like to tell business leaders they don't already know?

A: Kids must take economics and do a JA project like I did. It helps [you] become the best you can be.



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WE
MAKE THE
RULES

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Moving in The Fast Lane

As the entertainment industry explodes, a new generation takes on old Hollywood. BY VERONICA CHAMBERS AND CORIE BROWN

IN THE SPACE OF JUST A FEW hours, there were 40 messages left on Kyle Newman's answering machine. The 22-year-old New York University film-school senior had just won the Coca-Cola Refreshing Filmmaker's Award, a national competition the soda company sponsors to highlight new talent. The messages to Newman were from cooing studio executives and agents, most of whom had yet to see his 60-second "Bitten By Love." "I'm worried that there haven't been any concrete offers for directing jobs," says Newman, still a month shy of graduation. "By the time I'm 30, I want to be somewhat autonomous, to be able to do what I want to do. I don't want to waste time."

Newman's situation is enviable, but not unique. Every year some hip film-school grad makes it big. In recent years Robert Rodriguez, Kevin Smith and the Hughes brothers have all played the role. What's different now is that instead of the studios' embracing one lucky neophyte, there's a tidal wave of new behind-the-scenes talent hitting the West Coast. With Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's screenwriting Oscar, Hollywood is seeing the biggest generational shift in years. "It's the Wall Street of the '90s" is the blissed-out mantra you hear over and over again. After several years of floundering around in slackerville, young people have found a new place where

they can work hard, get rich and party like it's 1999. "You can make a lot of money on Wall Street, but it's boring," says one 25-year-old agent who asked not to be identified. "Washington is bull. That's where the 70-year-old has a voice. This is a business with no hierarchy. If you're hot, you own it. No waiting in line."

There've been wonderboys in Hollywood since Irving Thalberg was named head of production at Universal Studios in 1919 when he was barely 20. But today's wunderkinder are different because they speak to such a vast box-office audience, both teens and twentysomethings. "Everybody

got the wake-up call on this audience with 'Scream.' We stocked up on our executives in their 20s," says Lucy Fisher, vice chairman of Sony Pictures. When Chris Lee, 41, was made a president of production at Sony Pictures last spring, his first order of business was commissioning a demographic report. "There are 15 million teenagers today," says Lee. "There will be millions more in 2005. I immediately dedicated a

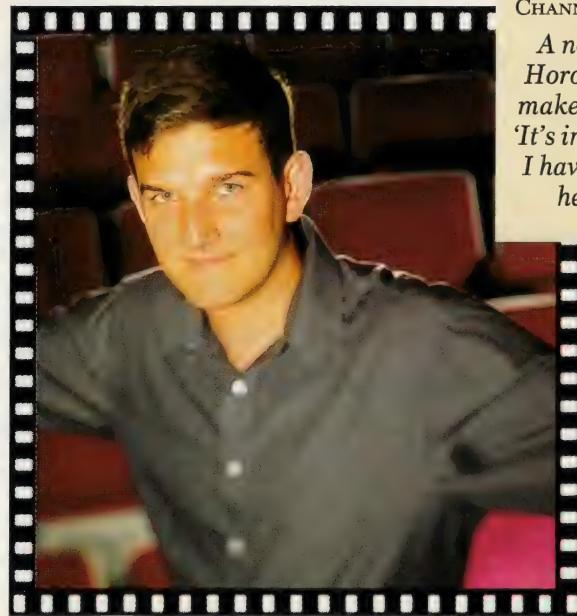
significant part of our movie slate to the younger audience." The first picture Lee is releasing for that audience is the new Mark Wahlberg-China Chow thriller, "The Big Hit."

With a proliferation of new media companies, there are more ways to break into Hollywood than ever before. A decade ago MTV's Los Angeles office consisted of a small ad-sales staff. Today there's a staff of 400 with an additional 500 employees at the new Nickelodeon Animation studio. Their average age is 28. The

WB Television Network not only creates young, hot stars with shows such as "Dawson's Creek" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," it has created more than 2,000 new jobs in the industry. Matt Antrim, 28, moved to Los Angeles from Kansas City, Mo., a year ago. It took him exactly 12 days to find a job at E! Entertainment Television. Antrim is now developing a sitcom that he hopes to produce and star in. "All it takes is one good day in L.A. to change your life," he says. That kind of relentless optimism billows through the town. "Every day in L.A.

MIKE
HOROWITZ
DIRECTOR OF
ACQUISITIONS,
THE SUNDANCE
CHANNEL, AGE 23

A nod from Horowitz can make a career. It's insane that I have power,
he says.





TAJAMIKA
PAXTON

STORY EDITOR,
MTV FILMS
AGE 26

Paxton started out as an actress. Next up: producing, then a professorship?

is like buying another lottery ticket," says Mike Horowitz, 23, director of acquisitions for the Sundance Channel. "All of my friends, whether they're in the business or waiting tables or just hanging out, all believe they are a day away from being millionaires."

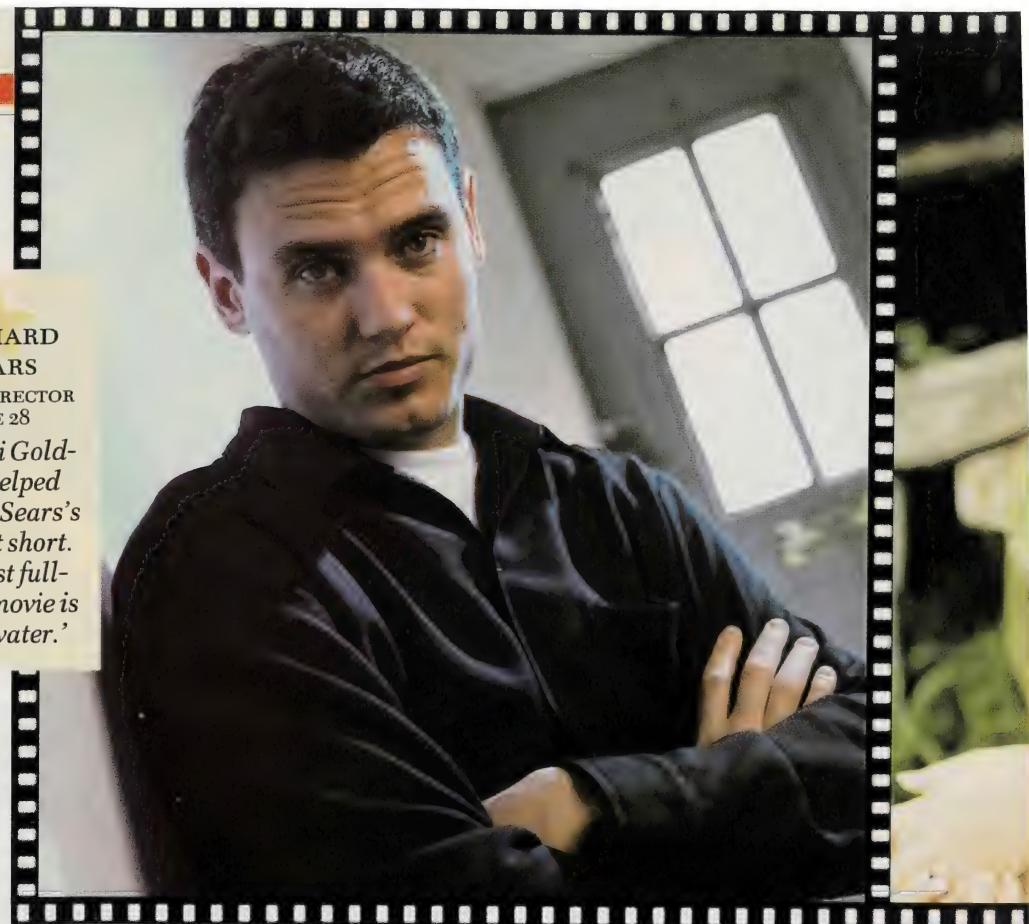
What's helping this generation to succeed is their native facility with technology. Shooting with digital cameras and editing on Avid is no big deal for a group of kids raised on videogames and computers. Grant Boucher, 33, is the CEO of Station X, a special-effects studio. "In the past, it was about spending millions on special effects," explains Boucher. "We said bull---t. We can do it faster and better and cheaper." Station X's bravado is already paying off. It's working on three movies and countless commercials and was instrumental in crafting the Oscar-winning effects for "Titanic." And while the average age at Station X is 26, they're already keeping an eye on the generation coming up behind them. "We are seeing amazing demo reels from 16-year-olds who've never done anything besides work at home," says Boucher.

While technology is changing the face of filmmaking, some things are still done the old-fashioned way: namely, lunch. Tajamika Paxton, a 26-year-old story editor at MTV Films, takes the meal very seriously. "Lunch is what I do," she explains as she walks over to the stylish commissary on the Paramount lot, where her company is based. Paxton's life is a constant flurry of phone calls, grilled-chicken salads and unread scripts. She and her colleagues get the chance to concentrate on a few movies a year with seven-figure budgets. Paxton hopes to move into producing soon, and feels keenly aware that she has a limited time to make her mark—and, she hopes, a lot of money. "My long-term goal is to own a chain of movie theaters, retire and teach in Angela Davis's program in the history of consciousness at UC Santa Cruz."

Most budding film executives probably don't want to end up back on campus, but it helps to know what you want to do when you're no longer young in Hollywood. At 22, Juliette Hohnen, a Brit, was hired at MTV in London. At 24, she was a producer on MTV in Hollywood. Now, at

RICHARD SEARS
FILM DIRECTOR
AGE 28

Whoopi Goldberg helped finance Sears's student short. His first full-length movie is 'Bongwater.'



32, she's chief correspondent on TNT's "Rough Cut," with a mixed perspective on her time in the trenches. "Once you turn 30, you don't want to be with the kids anymore," she says. "You don't want to do another interview with Green Day. They give you all this great training, but then there isn't anywhere else for you to go." Not that spending her 20s in Hollywood was a total waste. Hohnen met her husband, actor Steven Weber ("Wings"), at a party there;

their lovely 1929 pink stucco villa on L.A.'s west side was featured last month in *In Style* magazine.

At retro-style cantinas like El Carmen or funky hangouts like C Bar, young Hollywood types meet to exchange information about scripts, deals, hirings and firings. They drink, they have parties, and some do drugs, but even the most cynical boomers give this

To Live and Dine in L.A.

Where do young showbiz types go to unwind—and network? Here, a few of the hottest bars and cafés.



La Cienega Blvd.

Bar Marmont

Skybar

El Carmen Café

Beverly Hills

C Bar

Hollywood Blvd.

Sunset Blvd.

Fairfax Ave.

Tempest

Jones

Warner Bros. Studios

Lola's

Beverly Blvd.

Melrose Ave.

Highland Ave.

Vine St.

Western Ave.

Third St.

Vermont Ave.

101

Hollywood

Les Deux Cafés

Lucky Seven

Three Clubs

Santa Monica Blvd.

Paramount Studios



Les Feliz

Franklin Ave. **Vida**

N

W

S

E

101

Akbar

Silver Lake

GRAPHIC BY DIXON ROHR, ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRISTOPH BLUMRICH, RESEARCH BY BILL VOURVOULIAS—NEWSWEEK



JULIETTE
HOHNEN
CHIEF MOVIE
CORRESPONDENT,
TNT's
'ROUGH CUT'
AGE 32

Hohnen, raised in London, says, 'I don't do the award show thing, the première thing'

latest brat pack credit for working harder than they play. "We never felt that Hollywood was our destiny," says Lucy Fisher of Sony. "We weren't as motivated as these kids. We partied a lot and we were ambivalent about the money. They aren't."

On their way up, these young wanna-be producers and power brokers live in hip neighborhoods like Silverlake and Los Feliz. They rent old houses; they all have roommates like they did in college. In the driveways are used Jeeps, not Range Rovers. One night at a club called The Love Lounge, where parking costs \$2 and a Margarita is just a buck, a group who work for E! were joking that they power-lunch at Ralph's, the supermarket chain. But like everyone young in the industry, they've each got their eye on a house in the hills with a pool and a panoramic view of the city. Some older executives accuse them of being long on ambition and short on creativity and talent. "These kids don't come here because they love movies," says one talent manager. "It's the easy money. They're here by default. They revere the commerce of entertainment."

Even Mike Horowitz, from the Sundance Channel, is critical of his peers: "The bar is too low. It's too easy and cheap to make movies." He screens hundreds of first-time efforts every year: "Every week I see a 'Clerks' ripoff and at least one 'Reservoir Dogs'." Geoff Gilmore, director of programming for the Sundance Film Festival, is also appalled at what he sees

as a lack of film literacy. "Almost none of them can talk about directors who've influenced them or work that they admire," says Gilmore. "But they can tell you exactly how the industry works, how to get things done."

It's probably not fair to say most of these kids don't love movies: after all, they grew up on them. But they also know entertainment is our country's biggest export, and they want to be at the heart of the global message center. What's not yet clear is if they have anything big to say. "They are going to make 200 bad movies with TV stars playing high-school kids before they learn," says Fisher. "It will be interesting to see who has their feet on the ground long enough to survive. No one has emerged yet."

No one who compares to the directors of the 1970s."

Kevin Smith, the 27-year-old director of "Clerks" and "Chasing Amy," is one young filmmaker who seems to have staying power. For him, the key to being young in Hollywood is figuring out how to maintain your indie credibility while courting mainstream success. "Writing a couple of drafts for Warner Brothers' new 'Superman' was a blast," says Smith with a laugh. "Then Tim Burton got on and they got rid of me. But I did my big-movie thing and got paid boatloads of cash. That's sweet."

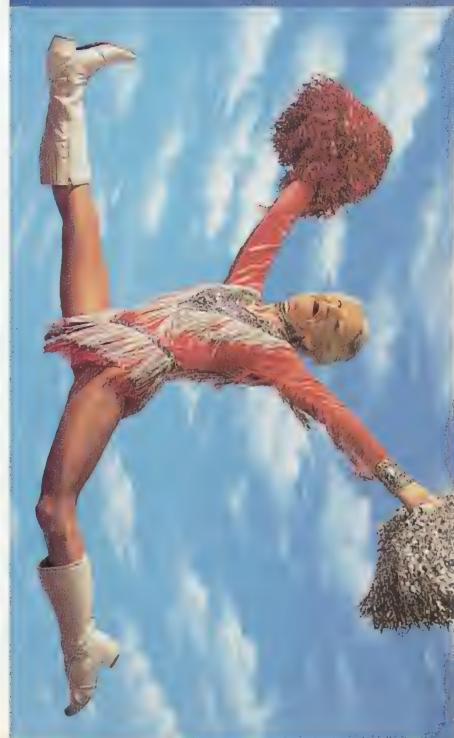
That cash is letting him make his next indie, called "Dogma." (Another way he keeps himself from going Hollywood: he still lives in New Jersey.)

Richard Sears, 28, is trying to follow Kevin Smith's lead. A San Francisco native, he's been in L.A. for a year. While searching for his first feature project, he's been directing television commercials for HKM, a hip Hollywood production company known for nurturing young talents such as Roman Coppola, the famous director's son. Meanwhile, Sears is on the festival circuit, searching for a distributor for "Bongwater," a little film he made about potheads in Portland, Ore., based on the cult hit novel by Michael Hornburg.

Who knows whether a movie like "Bongwater" will snag him the director's chair on Will Smith's next action flick? But because of the direction the industry is going, more of these Hollywood wanna-bes will likely get the chance. And they are having a good time. "Ours is the generation who says, 'I never want a job I loathe,'" says Kevin Smith. "Making movies has less to do with the need to succeed than the fear of being trapped [in a dead-end job]. We have the folly of youth on our side. If we f-k it up, we can make up for it later. Something will pan out. There's always comic books." ■

What if

you didn't have to worry about cardiovascular fitness?



So You Wanna Be a Star

Yes, you could be next week's hot new actor. But look out. Your career might be over before you can fill your swimming pool. BY YAH LIN CHANG

TALK TO ANYONE IN HOLLYWOOD about acting, and this is what they all say: no one's in it to get famous or make a lot of money. They're driven by an irrepressible desire to create art. "It gives me a great high to be able to facilitate great art," says William Morris agent Peter Levine, who launched Brendan Fraser into stardom by putting him in a loincloth in "George of the Jungle." "Film can illuminate us as human beings, and I feel blessed with the responsibility to nurture that. It goes back to Socrates. It goes back to Shakespeare—he made entertainment for the masses. 'Titus Andronicus' is in development." Alessandro Nivola, 25, who played Nicolas Cage's deranged brother in "Face/Off," talks somberly about the difficulties of premature fame and the importance of "letting the work speak for itself." Then he starts discussing ways to get more publicity. Prada sent him a selection of suits to choose from for the Oscars, he says, giggling; it outfits him for every major media event and has all his measurements on file. How does Prada figure in the creation of art? "Stardom is a necessity in a career," says Levine. "It's part of our nature to strut one's stuff. Look at the Restoration."

Stardom will always be more pipe dream than reality for most of the hopefuls who flock to Hollywood. But the phenomenal success of Leonardo DiCaprio (everyone is looking for the *next Leo*) and the sudden spate of new movies for young audiences mean that young actors have a better shot at making it than ever. And one of the best things about new actors is that they come cheap. Once producers have one or two stars they can hang their movie on, they start looking for bargains for the supporting roles. The risk for a new star who's catapulted into a higher salary bracket is that if his next movie bombs, he's suddenly the one losing a job to the cut-rate guy from the latest hot indie film, who can lend a dash of hipster credibility to a studio flick. Jason Lee, 27, who had to buy his own meals while filming Kevin Smith's "Chasing Amy," got about \$150,000 for a week's work on Tony Scott's

MARIA BELLO
AGE 31

It took six years to land an acting job. Last year she finally bought her first couch.



"Enemy of the State." "There was mainly a lot of running," says Lee.

For a young actor, hype has never been more important. "The hierarchy in Hollywood is based on fame, and that's why young actors get so depressed—they can't feel good about themselves unless they're famous," says Matt Keeslar, 25, a Juilliard-trained actor in Larry David's movie, "Sour Grapes," and Whit Stillman's upcoming "Last Days of Disco." He's now making \$800 a week playing Septimus in "Arcadia" at California's prestigious South Coast

Repertory Theater—and he just hired a publicist from PMK for \$2,500 a month (who called NEWSWEEK for this piece, along with 15 other publicists pitching five clients each). "We're cowed into believing that publicity is the most important thing," he says. "Nobody really cares if you're a good actor. They say, 'Yeah, he's done 20 movies, but I never saw

ALEXANDRA WENTWORTH

AGE 34

'At 40—even if you look really young—they'd say, "She has to play D.A.s and moms"'

his name in *Premiere* [magazine]. He's not talked about, you know."

From an actor's perspective, careers just seem to be getting shorter. The cycle of stardom—fame, overexposure and backlash—is spinning faster than ever. "The danger is that people become celebrities before they grow as actors," says agent Patrick Whitesell. "Suddenly they're asked to carry a

says. She realizes her breakthrough may have to wait until the film comes out. In the meantime, Kubrick's career advice to her was "Don't do any dopey films."

Not surprisingly, most of the excitement for Young Hollywood is actually reserved for Young White Male Hollywood.

Despite leads in "Dead Presidents" and "Love Jones," Larenz Tate, 25, says that Hollywood's still denying him jobs because he's African-American. Avoiding roles as a gang member or a thug cuts down his options even more. "I want the opportunity to show more than one side," he says. The industry's focus on youth has only increased the pressure on actresses who feel like their big break has to come now, while they're young, or it never will. Their paranoia that their careers will be over at 40 is only reinforced by movies pairing the likes of Jack Nicholson, 61, with Helen Hunt, 34 ("As Good as It Gets"); Harrison Ford, 55, with Anne Heche, 29 ("Six Days, Seven Nights," out in June), and Michael Douglas, 53, with Gwyneth Paltrow, 25 ("A Perfect Murder," June).

"Actors don't have to hold up to the standards we do," says Alexandra Wentworth, who doesn't like to give her age. "The women in this town are stunning. If I compete on a physical level, I'll lose." Still, filmmakers won't let her audition for parts as Julia Roberts's or Jennifer Aniston's best friend because they think a pretty woman has to have an ugly friend. "I've seriously considered gaining 50 pounds," she says. Even after working for seven years, including two seasons on "In Living Color," Wentworth's in a constant state of career panic. The near misses are driving her crazy. A part in "Jerry Maguire" was cut down to almost nothing. At one point she was up for "Godzilla." "I'll think, 'CAA's gonna drop me; it's over,'" she says. "But what's so insane is it could happen at any moment! If I were in 'Titanic,' not even in a lead, it would've changed my career overnight."

Maria Bello's career practically did change overnight. She struggled for six years in New York, waiting tables, hearing people say she couldn't act. Three years ago she met a casting director in L.A. through a friend of a friend and landed a job. Bello, who joined "ER" and played leads in two movies filmed last year—one's the upcoming "Payback" with Mel Gibson—is stepping into stardom warily. "You can get to a point where it's never enough money and they never like you enough," she says. "I just don't want to get carried away by all this." Nice thought. But what will happen when the Prada dresses start arriving at her door?

With ALLISON SAMUELS

MATT
KEESLAR
AGE 25

'Acting's not important. It's "Do you look right?" and "Do you know someone I know?"'

What if
you didn't have to worry about
managing
your child's asthma?



movie before they're ready." Matthew McConaughey, 1996's *It Boy* who appeared on the cover of *Vanity Fair* before anyone saw him in a movie, has only gotten poor-to-mixed reviews since. "If a star fades, it's like, 'OK, next!'" says Vinessa Shaw, 21. "I've had peers just fizzle away. They get famous too quickly, and they don't know how to handle it." Shaw, who finished filming Stanley Kubrick's "Eyes Wide Shut" a year ago, isn't getting any jobs off it because of Kubrick's strict veil of secrecy. "It's still an enigma, so people treat me like an enigma, too," she

Driving to The Hoop

Spike Lee's unexpected epic, 'He Got Game'

BY DAVID ANSEN

THE STRUTTING TITLE, *He Got Game*, doesn't begin to convey the reach or the feel of Spike Lee's ambitious, absorbing new movie. At once a celebration of the game of basketball, an exposé of the game's corruption and an exploration of a fraught father-and-son relationship, "He Got Game" merges the epic aspirations of "Malcolm X," the domestic concerns of "Mo' Better Blues" and the social issues explored in "Get on the Bus." Then it wraps it all in an epic-scale package and sets the tale to the music of Public Enemy and Aaron Copland. Those improbable musical credits—inner-city hip-hop shoulder to shoulder with the plangent, wide-open spaces of "Appalachian Spring" and the hortatory strains of "Fanfare for the Common Man"—give a much better sense of the expansive, eclectic taste of this movie.

Milwaukee Bucks guard Ray Allen plays Jesus Shuttlesworth, the most coveted high-school basketball player in the country. Denzel Washington is his father, Jake, who's spent the last six years behind bars in Attica, convicted of murdering his wife, Jesus's mother. The week before his son must choose one of the colleges clawing for his talents, Jake (a once promising player himself) is temporarily released. The governor wants him to get Jesus to sign with the

DAVID LEE



Messiah and meal ticket: Allen weighs his options as court star Jesus Shuttlesworth

guy's alma mater; success could shorten his sentence. Thus Jake, whom Jesus has never forgiven, joins a long line of supplicants who want a piece of the future millionaire's action: girlfriends, agents, coaches, groupies and greedy relatives who see Jesus as their ticket out of Coney Island into the promised land of the Lexus and the Rolex.

Washington is terrific as this decent, haunted, angry father, but the domestic drama isn't as fully realized as the lively pageant of worldly temptations that Jesus must face on the road to his fateful decision. When Jake's crime is finally shown, neither his sentence nor his reaction to his fate makes much sense. Lee's script, which is so sharp on the specifics of the sports world, gets fuzzy around Jake: we're never even told

how he made a living before his incarceration. Lee also throws in an abused, heart-of-gold hooker (Milla Jovovich) as Jake's quasi-romantic interest. Jovovich can act, but her part's a cliché and the subplot goes nowhere.

Flaws and all, this may be Spike's most purely enjoyable movie, and his best looking. It flows and breathes as few of his earlier, crunched-up movies ever did, borne along by a juicy cast that includes Hill Harper, Rosario Dawson, Zelda Harris and Bill Nunn. Allen is inexperienced but winning, and there are amusing cameos from such hoop heavyweights as Dean Smith, John Thompson, Charles Barkley and Shaquille O'Neal. "He Got Game" may be all over the place, but it's held together by Lee's passion for the game. ■

The Rebels Without a Pause Return

BEFORE HIP-HOP DECIDED that it was "All About the Benjamins," "Gettin' Jiggy Wit It" or trying to "Make Em Say Uhhh!" rap once had something profound to say about the souls of black folk in post-civil-rights America. And no one said it louder and prouder than Public Enemy on ahead-of-its-time albums like "It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back" and "Fear of a Black Planet." Chuck D's stentorian raps, Termina-

tor X's furious scratching and the Bomb Squad's wall-of-noise production inspired everyone from Wu-Tang Clan to Nine Inch Nails. But just like the militant politics of the Black Panthers, which devolved into Crips-vs.-Bloods gang culture, pro-black rap of the '80s was overtaken by gangsta rap in the '90s, leaving PE adrift.

Now, just in time to save hip-hop from its ghetto-fabulous self, PE returns with the "He Got Game" soundtrack,

and a studio album is due out later this year. From blistering politics (taking on big-money sports and shoe companies on "Is Your God a Dog" and "Politics of the Sneaker Pimps") to old-school bombast ("Resurrection" and "Unstoppable"), Public Enemy takes us back to the glory days of hip-hop. Believe the hype.

N'GAI CROAL

Rhyme animals: Flavor Flav, Terminator X and Chuck D



Les Miz Re-Re-Redux

The umpteenth version of Victor Hugo's classic novel is for first-timers and Liam Neeson fans

NOT EVEN COUNTING that musical that won't go away, there has been no shortage of *Les Misérables* to choose from. Four silent-movie versions were followed by six with sound (two French, one Italian, one TV movie). The most memorable was the 1935 Hollywood version with Fredric March as Jean Valjean and an unforgettable Charles Laughton as his implacable foe, Javert. Does the world really need another retelling?

Frankly, no.

But we've got one anyway, this time with Liam Neeson as the reformed convict trying to live a decent life and Geoffrey Rush, of "Shine" fame, as the obsessive, law-and-order police inspector who spends half a lifetime hunting him down. Rafael Yglesias has condensed Victor Hugo's immense novel into a tight, time-hopping script, and the Danish director, Bille August, who has made some excellent Scandinavian films ("Pelle the Conqueror" "Jerusalem"), finally shows that his encounters with the English language don't have to end in disaster ("The House of the Spirits"). This is a solid, handsomely mounted but seldom inspired "Les Misérables." Perhaps it will prove enthralling to a viewer encountering Hugo's sweeping, romantic tale for the first time.

For Mizniks, however, the thrills seem diluted. It's a bit like listening to another recording of Beethoven's Fifth, hoping to find interesting variances between Kleiber's conducting and Abbado's. See how sternly and unsentimentally the abbe is played here, as he forgives Valjean his theft and sets him on the road to righteousness. Savor the heft and physicality the

well-cast Neeson brings to the role, neatly mixing coarseness with delicacy. Marvel at Rush's reptilian, dead-eyed stillness and wonder: why doesn't he ever change his expression? Is it a reaction against playing the twitchy, hyperactive David Helfgott? It can also be diverting to watch Uma Thurman transform herself (a bit too strenuously) into the beat-up, sickly Fantine, whose daughter, Cosette, grows up to be Claire Danes, who in the movie's third act falls in love with the dashing young revolutionary Marius (Hans Matheson).

It's here, when the story jumps 10 years to 1832 Paris and we have to get to know a whole new set of characters, that "Les Misérables" begins to feel like "Les Interminables." The filmmakers can't surmount the stop-start structure. Hugo's themes may be timeless, but in this version the viewer is all too aware of the passing time.

D. A.



Play it again, Jean: Neeson consoles Danes

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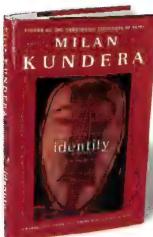


BOOK MARKS

IDENTITY by Milan Kundera (HarperFlamingo. \$22). Chantal fears she's too old for men to notice her on the street—then suddenly she starts getting anonymous love letters. She hides them in her lingerie drawer so her lover, Jean-Marc, won't find them, then strolls around Paris fantasizing about her secret admirer. All this is an engaging premise, but it seems pat coming from a virtuoso like Kundera, who, not long ago, seemed like a Nobel Prize waiting to happen. Yes, he hangs all the usual metaphysical drapery (see the title). But his novel—

only the second he's written in French rather than Czech—never rivets until the tense, surreal finale when the couple's relationship implodes and Chantal finds herself at the loosest of ends.

JEFF GILES



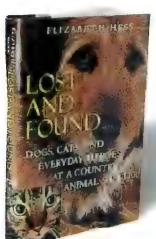
WITH NAILS: THE FILM DIARIES OF RICHARD E.

GRANT (Overlook. \$24.95). These jottings by an actor who was first noticed in the British cult hit "Withnail and I" read as though they were dictated in a rush and edited with a SaladShooter. Yet they're also sweetly revealing, because Grant seems never to have lost his bewilderment at the life of make-believe and money he has made his way into. He's gaga when he meets Barbra Streisand; puppy-eager yet shrewd about his directors, such as Francis Coppola and Martin Scorsese, and unabashedly fond of performers (such as Julia Roberts) in whom he recognizes vulnerability and a spirit of play. Grant himself—an excess of fizz ever in search of some vessel to fill—has plenty of both.

RAY SAWHILL

LOST AND FOUND by Elizabeth Hess (Harcourt Brace. \$23). Arts journalist Hess is a volunteer at an animal shelter in upstate New York; this book is a marvelously reported, richly anecdotal and profoundly moving account of what goes on behind the scenes. Hess's chapter on euthanasia, wisely placed just before the end, will break your heart—forget the euphemism "put to sleep." But as the title suggests, she ultimately emphasizes successful adoptions and the shelter staff's quiet, unsentimental acts of kindness and heroism. Each of the 5,000 strays that come in every year at least gets a blanket, food, toys and a name. A good number of them, to the reader's intense relief, even make it out again.

DAVID GATES



Is Helen ready? Just don't ask if she's like Bridget

BOOKS

The Bridget Invasion

A London diary hits home

BY SARAH VAN BOVEN

THANK GOODNESS BRIDGET JONES can't keep her New Year's resolutions. The heroine of Helen Fielding's runaway British best seller first appears in "Bridget Jones's Diary" making solemn promises: she will "go to gym three times a week not merely to buy sandwich." She will not smoke, drink too much or "obsess about Daniel Cleaver, as pathetic to have crush on boss in manner of Miss Monypenny or similar." But she fails gloriously. The fictional diary entries that follow begin with lists like this one: "Sunday, 26 February, 126 lbs., alcohol units 5 (drowning sorrows), cigarettes 23 (fumigating sorrows), calories 3856 (smothering sorrows in fat duvet)." Bridget's post-feminist sorrows could be tedious in the hands of a less charming writer—they include such trivialities as the inability to find a pair of tights in her bureau without holes or bits of tissue stuck all over them. But Fielding has managed to create an unforgettable droll character. Ally McBeal had better watch her scrawny little back—in June, Bridget Jones is coming to America.

Early indications suggest she'll get a warm welcome. In New York and beyond, women

are lending purloined proofs of Viking's American edition and British copies to friends with "you've got to read this" notes attached. Back home, Fielding's novel is a certified smash. The former BBC producer created Bridget in 1995, when an editor at The Independent asked her to contribute a column to the paper. At first she didn't tell co-workers—"These were people writing very serious political stories about New Labour," says Fielding, 39. After the column proved hugely popular, she wrote "Bridget Jones's Diary," basing the story on "Pride and Prejudice." ("There's several hundred years of market testing on that plot," she says.) A year and a half and 900,000 copies later, Bridget is quite literally the talk of London. Erratic, hedonistic behavior is described as "very Bridget Jones." Bachelorettes now self-identify as "singletons," and disparage the "smug marrieds" who maliciously inquire after their love lives. Bridgetmania will only be heightened by a film adaptation from the "Four Weddings and a Funeral" team and by two book sequels. "I have girls coming up to me at parties saying, 'I am Bridget Jones. I am her!'" marvels Fielding. "What am I supposed to say? 'Bless you, my child. If you aren't Bridget, you are at the very least quite drunk.'"

In fact, all those alcohol units and cigarettes do have some fans worrying about how Bridget will fare in fitness-obsessed America when Viking's hardcover edition hits stores in June. Expat writer Christopher Hitchens penned an open letter to the character in the *Evening Standard* warning that over here, "babes are not problem-oriented. They are solution-obsessed. Do you have a solution? I thought not." But Fielding is hopeful that the humor will translate. "It's funny how Brits think Americans don't understand self-deprecation and irony," she says. "It just can't be true—look at Woody Allen."

Fielding seems excited, if nervous, about her upcoming publicity tour. "It'll be one interview after another," she says. "I worry that it'll get to be midnight and when the tenth person asks 'So, are you Bridget Jones?' I'll just burst out with 'Oh, go f--- yourself!'" Here's hoping you do, Helen. As Bridget herself so aptly put it in a recent column in *The Daily Telegraph*, "Self-discipline is not everything. Look at Pol Pot."

With JANE HUGHES in London

Your Health

Do You Have Hepatitis C?

A DECADE AGO SUSIE Makinster, then an advertising executive in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, learned she might have a liver problem. Her doctors told her not to worry. So she didn't—until three years ago, when she was astonished to learn she had tested positive for hepatitis C, a blood-borne virus she had never heard of. Makinster, then 45, had been living with an infection that would likely stay with her for life—and that could eventually destroy her liver and cause her death. Yet she had no idea how or when she had contracted the virus.

Hepatitis C wasn't even discovered until 1989. Today an estimated 3.9 million Americans are infected, and most of them still don't know it. Like HIV, hepatitis C is a slow-acting virus that can be transmitted by shared needles and blood transfusions. But it's far more rampant. There's no vaccine to prevent its spread, and no reliable treatment. Some 75 percent of people who contract the virus will carry it for life; 20 percent will develop cirrhosis of the liver. Hepatitis C is now the nation's leading reason for liver transplantation, and the second leading cause of cirrhosis (after alcohol). It will kill roughly 10,000 Americans this year—and that number is expected to triple over the next two decades, as more past infections come to light. Says Surgeon General David Satcher, "This is a major public-health crisis."

Though blood banks now screen for hepatitis C, anyone who received a transfusion before 1990 is at risk. Transfusions account for roughly 7 percent of all known infections. IV drug use is a far larger cause of infection. Hepatitis C is rampant among addicts, but experts say baby boomers who experimented with IV drugs during the 1960s and '70s constitute the largest risk group. These are not drug addicts, says Dr. Eugene Schiff of the University of Miami School of Medicine, but "people who shot up when they were young, then forgot about it until 25 years later." Anyone who



Nearly 4 million Americans are infected. Most don't know it.

BY MARY HAGER AND LARRY REIBSTEIN

has worked in a hospital, shared cocaine straws or had ears pierced with unsterile equipment is also at risk.

A carrier may feel fine for decades, or suffer only minor fatigue, then discover through a lab test that he has end-stage liver disease. The virus attacks the liver, causing inflammation and, over the years, scarring (cirrhosis) that envelops healthy tissue. The liver gradually loses its ability to filter toxins and may fail altogether. Finding out whether you're infected is fairly simple. For about \$80, you can get an EIA (or enzyme immunoassay), which determines whether your blood contains antibodies to hepatitis C. Doctors normally confirm a positive test result with a second antibody

test called RIBA. Gauging the severity of the disease requires a liver biopsy.

Treating hepatitis C is still a crude art. Alpha interferon is the drug of choice. After 12 to 18 months of regular injections, one patient in five recovers completely, but most relapse either during or after treatment. And the drug itself has devastating, flulike side effects. Several drugmakers are working on new treatments that could reach the market in the next few years, including a new interferon and a protease inhibitor similar to those used against HIV. Perhaps most promising is ribavirin, an old antiviral now being tested in hepatitis patients. Makinster had developed cirrhosis when she started taking ribavirin with interferon four months ago. The virus has since dropped to undetectable levels in her blood.

Until treatment is less hit-or-miss, living with hepatitis C will be a matter of accommodation. Though most people who contract the virus become chronically infected, many never develop advanced liver disease. That's partly due to luck, but not entirely. Giving up alcohol brightens the prognosis, and many sufferers tout the benefits of reducing stress and getting more rest. Getting vaccinated against hepatitis A and B is also a good idea, since a dual infection can aggravate the disease. And preventing further spread requires some precautions. Experts are divided on the need to practice safe sex, since the virus is normally only in the blood. But they stress the importance of covering open wounds and not sharing razors and toothbrushes.

Above all, living with hepatitis C involves learning to live with uncertainty. Catheleen Healey knows how hard that can be. Her mother and sister died from hepatitis C; two other sisters have tested positive. At 60, Healey is suffering from advanced liver disease and waiting for a donor organ. She feels fine now but knows that could change quickly. As more cases come to light, others will face the same reality. ■

Food for the Heart

THOSE BRIGHT RED DUCKS GLISTENING with fat aren't the healthiest foods in a Chinese restaurant. But red yeast rice, the ingredient that gives the birds their otherworldly color, may help the 58 million Americans troubled by moderately elevated cholesterol. In a newly reported clinical study, Dr. David Heber of UCLA has found that people with cholesterol readings of 200 to 240 can achieve reductions of nearly 20 percent by taking 2.5 grams of red yeast rice every day for two months. The powdered grain—sold in capsules under the brand name Cholestin—is a natural source of cholesterol-lowering chemicals called monacolins. Prescription drugs such as Mevacor and Pravachol provide more monacolin activity than red yeast rice, and are more effective for serious cholesterol problems. But Heber's findings suggest that the red powder can help keep you out of the danger zone. Just don't use Chinese spare ribs as a delivery system.



Flea-Free Felines

IF YOUR CAT HATES flea baths more than fleas, relief may be at hand. The drug giant Novartis has just introduced a feline flea shot that may make shampoos and pills obsolete. A single injection of the FDA-approved Program 6 Month Injectable for Cats can ward off flea infestations for six months—about six times longer than the pill-based remedies currently on the market.

The new treatment can take several months to clear active infestations, but if used early it can keep them from occurring. As its active ingredient, Lufenuron,

is passed along to the fleas through the animals' bloodstreams, it prevents their eggs from hatching. And without offspring the pests never



Birth control for fleas

establish a beachhead. "I wouldn't hesitate to use it on my cats," says William Miller, professor of dermatology at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. Program 6 will cost about \$30 a dose.

WEB WATCH

Pediaweb

The KidsHealth Web site (www.kidshealth.org) is both a serious resource for adults and a fun place for youngsters. Click on the "Parents" icon to explore topics like stress (a problem even for infants). Click "Kids" to find child-friendly discussions of divorce or puberty, and animations of body systems in action. KidsHealth also answers vital questions like "Why do we yawn?" (To expel carbon dioxide.)

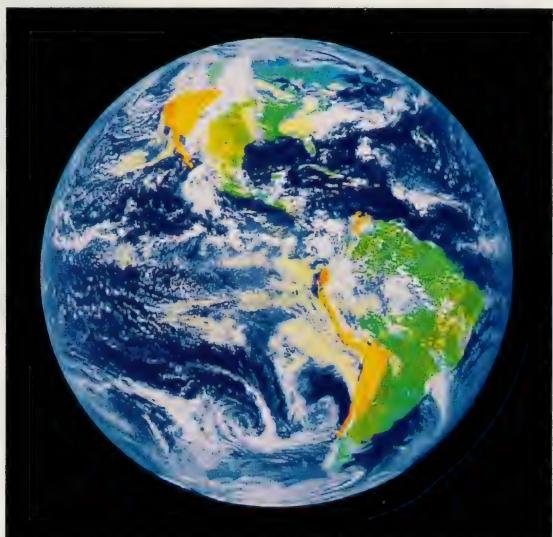


All aboard for health

Space-Age Disease Detectives

SCIENTISTS ARE TAKING the long view of epidemics—from outer space. Infectious-disease specialist C. J. Peters of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention believes that satellite images of the earth "will someday be our most important tool for anticipating these diseases." The photos reveal various climate patterns that can affect outbreaks, such as increased rainfall. Epidemiologist Gregory

Gurri Glass of Johns Hopkins is using satellites to predict Hanta virus in the Southwest. The deadly infection is



A warm, wet winter can bring plagues in the spring

spread by mice, which proliferate in moist, mild weather.

Why not just watch the Weather Channel? Satellites cover vast regions but also let scientists examine small hot

zones they might otherwise miss—like the yard of a rural Arizona adobe. Soon satellites may help us prevent yellow fever, encephalitis and other diseases, rather than just treat them.

Longer Labor

EPIDURALS CAN NUMB childbirth pain, but the relief comes at a price: longer labor. Doctors at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center found that women who received epidurals averaged nearly eight hours in labor. Women who chose intravenous Demerol, which offers less-complete pain relief, averaged only about 6.5 hours. "We aren't badmouthing epidurals—my wife had one," says Dr. James M. Alexander, who led the study. "But women and their doctors should be aware that things might take longer."

STEPHEN WILLIAMS



IF YOU TOOK TYPING IN HIGH SCHOOL, IT'S TIME TO SEE AN INTERNIST.

If you remember carbon paper, typewriter ribbons and correction fluid, please make a note. It's time to start seeing a Doctor of Internal Medicine.

Internists are the medical doctors who make a practice of treating adults. They devote at least three additional years, after medical school, learning to prevent and treat diseases that primarily affect grown ups. So they're well prepared to listen and talk with you about a broad range of adult health care needs, from routine physicals and wellness programs, to the management of complex medical conditions. Many internists take additional

training to "subspecialize." Subspecialist internists gain expertise in one of 16 disciplines, including gastroenterology (diseases of the intestinal system), pulmonology (lungs), nephrology (kidneys), and geriatrics.

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Making HMOs Play Fair

Are tough new laws the key to better health care? By ELLYN E. SPRAGINS

TALK ABOUT IMAGE PROBLEMS. When Helen Hunt delivers an expletive-larded denunciation of HMOs in "As Good as It Gets," audiences not only cheer but sometimes stand and applaud. Clearly, drastic measures are needed to restore confidence in managed care. But should the government impose reforms, or will market forces provide all the protection we need? That's the crux of an escalating battle being fought on your behalf.

In one corner are consumer advocates and lawmakers, who believe that the managed-care business has gotten too powerful. They're readying "bill of rights" legislation that would force health plans to guarantee subscribers a choice of doctors, a say in treatment decisions, confidentiality and other basic protections. In the other corner are insurers and health plans, which argue that the new laws could raise health-care costs, leaving more Americans uninsured. Even a 1 percent rise in insurance costs would prompt small businesses to drop coverage for an estimated 200,000 people, according to Bill Gradison, president of the Health Insurance Association of America.

Who's right? In some ways managed care is doing a bang-up job without any oversight. HMOs have helped slow medical inflation (though higher premiums now appear imminent). They've devised flexible plans that allow members to visit out-of-network doctors, and many have started sharing objective measures of quality. "During the last five years there's been an absolute revolution in this industry, driven by the consumer," says Gradison. The trouble is, the consumer isn't king in health care the way he is in, say, the toothpaste market. And when consumers lack power, the market loses its magic.

Here's the problem. Most of us shop for our own toothpaste. But employers shop for our health care, even though we're the ones who use it. We can't simply ditch a loser HMO and pick another brand from a well-stocked shelf, because most bosses of

fer only a couple of options. There's another crucial difference between health care and ordinary consumer gear. Toothpaste companies make money whenever you use their product. But HMOs profit when you *don't* use their product—and they also get to decide when you'll be barred from the door. As lawyer Michael Campbell of the Pennsylvania Health Law Project puts it, "There are incredible financial incentives to underserve members."

HMOs are eager to prove they're consumers' best friends. They claim they can voluntarily meet or exceed the standards that consumer advocates want to legislate. Is that a credible promise? Let's look at how well HMOs currently share informa-

tion, just one of the seven patient rights outlined by a presidential commission last fall. You might think it's easy to find out whether the drug you need is covered by a health plan's formulary. But when Citizens for the Right to Know, a patient-advocacy group in Sacramento, posed the question to 48 California HMOs, 23 percent said their drug lists were available only to doctors and pharmacies—not to members or prospective members.

That's supposed to be the easy stuff to find out. What happens when you seek hard-core performance numbers? Last year NEWSWEEK reporters called customer-service reps at the country's 150 largest HMOs. Posing as prospective members, we asked each one for its breast-cancer screening rate (the percentage of women 52 to 69 who've received a mammogram in the past two years), a well-established quality measure. Only three plans could furnish the answer. It gets worse. Last year just half the country's plans released the broad array of performance data solicited by Quality Compass, a database sponsored by the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

But is the price of demanding good behavior too steep? The Congressional Budget Office calculates the president's bill of rights would raise costs by three fourths of a percent, or about \$3.21 per person per month. That's not likely to collapse the economy, and it won't cost the best plans anything, because they're already giving consumers a fair shake. A bill of rights would merely force stragglers to meet the same standard.

Industry leaders insist that if left alone, they would eventually set everything right. But a new study by Families USA makes you wonder. One finding: high-level executives at the nation's largest for-profit HMOs—the guys arguing that we can't afford a bill of consumer rights—enjoyed an average compensation of more than \$6 million apiece in 1996. That may not say it all. But it says a lot about who counts most when the industry is left to look after itself. ■

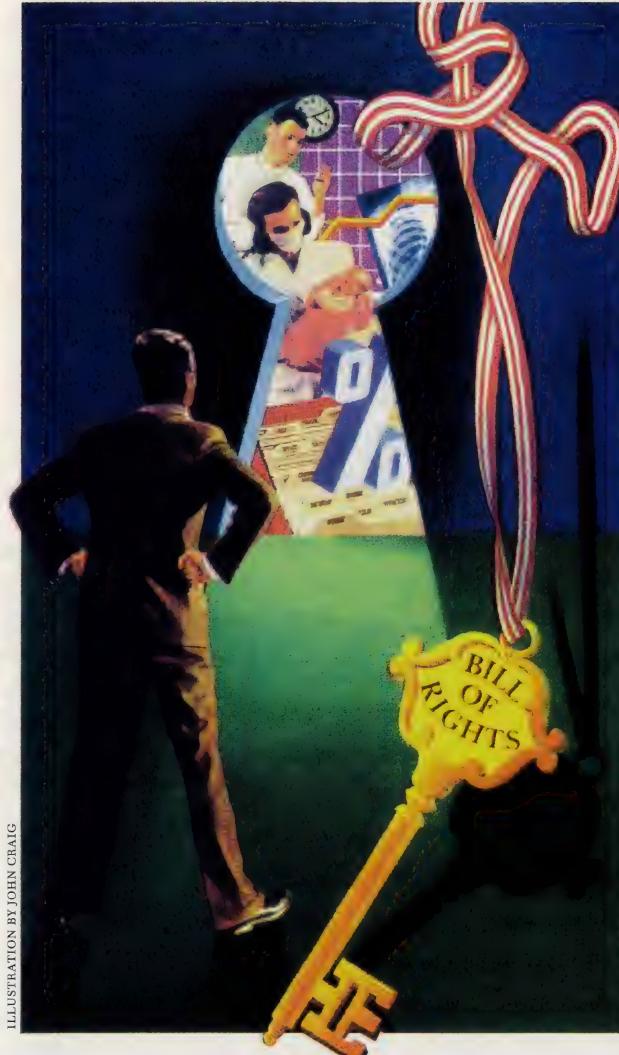


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INCARCERATED SPECIES LIST

Since we started jailing so many public figures, the potential inmates have gotten streetwise

BY MEG GREENFIELD

ICAN'T REMEMBER WHICH CELEBRITY OR PUBLIC BIG cheese it was whose imprisonment set me to thinking about how many such notable personalities we seemed to be throwing in the clink these days. This was a few years back, and I have been fitfully and unsystematically adding names to the list ever since, when I come across it in the nest of papers where it lives. I think: "What's that?" And then: "Oh, that's that list ... why am I saving that list?" And then: "I wonder why I forgot Pete Rose." So onto the list goes Pete.

The list itself has thus become a sort of melancholy add-a-pearl necklace over the years, as new names qualify for it, and old names come back to mind. The only criterion for being on the list is to have served some time in jail or prison, whether it was a few days or a few years, and whether the cause of incarceration was what most people would consider a trivial, picayune offense or a major one. Just having been there and not been free to turn the doorknob and go home is what I'm adding up.

Now, consider this sketchy, incomplete form of the list: Leona Helmsley, Sun Myung Moon, Zsa Zsa Gabor, evangelist Jim Bakker, Charles Colson, H. R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and Attorney General John Mitchell (the last four from the Watergate prosecutions), Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr., Pete Rose, Superfund official Rita Lavelle, United Way president William Aramony, Larry Flynt, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Thayer, House Ways and Means chairman Dan Rostenkowski, Ivan Boesky, Michael Milken, Associate Attorney General Webster Hubbell.

That's only a start, and you will notice that the list does not include people who did time but whose convictions were subsequently overturned (Gov. Marvin Mandel of Maryland), people whose convictions are still on appeal (Gov. Fife Symington of Arizona), people who avoided prison by plea bargain (Vice President Spiro Agnew) or on grounds of health (Arkansas governor Jim Guy Tucker) and a host of others who were fined, put on probation and sentenced to fixed periods of community service. Nor, of course, does it include those unhappy cabinet and ex-cabinet members currently in the costly, harrowing toils of as yet inconclusive investigation.

The first question that wants to be answered about all this is: was it always this way? I believe the answer is no. In the period I remember, starting in the postwar years, there were certainly some famous cases of political corruption, corporate price fixing and on-the-take athletes, convictions in some high-profile espionage cases and precedent-breaking, televised chases of union abusers and organized crime by congressional investigators. But it seems to me the incidence of prosecution of people like those on the list for jailable offenses was much rarer. There are reasons for this.

One is the obvious fact that in the Watergate aftermath an aggressive, ambitious press is competing fiercely to plant its paper's or network's flag on the wrongdoing-in-high-places (or rich-places) story first. Related to this, and helping the press and prosecutors to unearth and publicly reveal so much potentially criminal material about big shots, or at least scuzzy, degrading information on their doings, is the overall decline of authority on the part of institutions and their leaders, the diminution of the respect, never mind awe, in which they are held. Not all journalists and law-enforcement types, but an awful lot of both, used automatically to assume a fairly strong measure of probity on the part of government and business and other establishment fixtures and leaders of the kind they now have hopes of putting behind bars. They used to be afraid of taking such people on, as well, even if they knew there was a worthy case just waiting to be developed. That combination of social awe and political deference and personal intimidation is now rarer than ever. Your high and mighty status will not protect you. On the contrary ...

The people who get caught up and caught out in these episodes, those who are jailed for good reason as well as those who

are penalized more as a kind of harassment and retaliation for misconduct that seems less and less consequential as the years go by, have developed their own state-of-the-art defense: heavy spin, the eventual (sometimes overnight) exploitation of their offense in books, talk shows, speeches and the rest; you could say they *recelebrity* themselves. But, above all, many of them have found they have a friend, and what a friend it is, in, of all things, the law.

Yes, it is true, a pretty big proportion of them lose, or at least don't get the acquittals or dismissals they are working for. But by and large turning at once to the legal front, employing the proper battery of tough, PR-adept lawyers and disappearing into the legal fine points can embroil the issue in so much complication and self-willed delay and perplexity that it is no longer even susceptible to reasoned resolution by a court. It's too hard, people say, and too ambiguous, and then they go into a litany of extenuating, or confounding or otherwise unsettled circumstances that make it near impossible to come to a clear conclusion. Then they forget it. Case dismissed.

The search for incontrovertible evidence, fidelity to constitutional and judicial principles, the insistence on unanimity of judgment before rendering a jury verdict and, equally, the insistence on following the legal rules, even when these are not essential to proving the main charge—all these things are vital and indispensable to the fair prosecution of crimes. They are not necessarily vital or indispensable to reaching an obvious judgment as to what occurred and forming an opinion about it, however. And they may merely be a method of delay. But while the legal proceedings drag on over the years, observers are instructed, as they might be told to hush outside a hospital room, that it would be disruptive and unfair to reach an opinion about the problem yet. Since the society started putting more people in prison, or trying to, the people who are at risk of being convicted for something or other have gotten a lot more streetwise in their response. The law doesn't just protect them from punishment; it insulates them from being held accountable for what they did.



HOW MUCH DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY?

Warning: Most People Flunk This Quiz

With all the recent debate about Social Security, what's surprising is how few facts many Americans know about this huge program. In a new survey for *Americans Discuss Social Security*, 63% of Americans rated their own understanding of the Social Security debate as fair or poor.

Think you know the facts about Social Security? Try a few questions from our Social Security quiz:

1. What Are the Social Security Tax Rates for Employees?

a. 5.50%
b. 6.20%
c. 7.65%
d. 15.30%

2. What Is the Minimum Age to Receive Full Retirement Benefits for People Born 1960 and Later?

a. 62
b. 65
c. 67
d. 70

3. In 1998, What Is the Maximum Amount of Earnings Subject to the Social Security Tax?

a. \$45,500
b. \$68,400
c. \$100,000
d. All Earnings

4. Using Intermediate Economic Assumptions, What Percentage of Social Security Benefits Will the Social Security Trust Funds Be Able to Pay Beneficiaries in 2029?

a. None
b. 100% of Benefits Due
c. 50% of Benefits Due
d. 75% of Benefits Due

The full Social Security quiz is at our Web site: www.americansdiscuss.org. You'll find the answers there. (Or, if you're really desperate to know the answers now, turn this ad upside down.) At our Web site, you'll also find a treasure trove of objective information about Social Security.

Americans Discuss Social Security is a non-partisan project that aims to inform all Americans about Social Security and give them a voice in shaping its future. If you'd like to know more about our programs and citizen forums, call us at 1-888-735-ADSS (2377), or check out our Web site.



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